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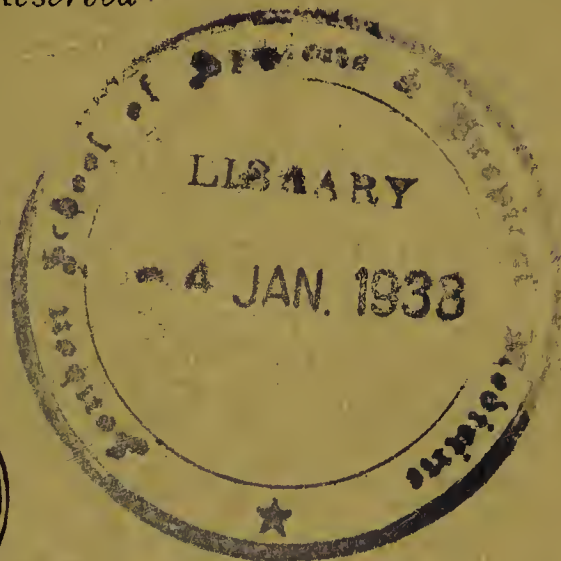
No. 1812

Annual Report on the Social and Economic
Progress of the People of the

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS,
1936

(For Report for 1934 see No. 1726 (Price 4s. 6d.)
and for Report for 1935 see No. 1783 (Price 5s. od.).)

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(PRINTED IN THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS)

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS 1936

CHAPTER I

A.—GEOGRAPHY

The Straits Settlements comprise the four Settlements of Singapore (including Christmas Island and the Cocos-Keeling group), Penang (including Province Wellesley), Malacca and Labuan. The first three were transferred from the control of the Indian Government to that of the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the 1st April, 1867, by an Order in Council, issued under the authority of an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

Singapore is an island about 27 miles long by 14 wide, and about 217 square miles in area. It is separated from the southern extremity of the Malay Peninsula by a narrow strait about three-quarters of a mile in width, across which a causeway for road and railway has now been built. There are a number of small islands adjacent to Singapore which also form part of the Settlement.

The seat of Government is the town of Singapore, at the southern point of the island.

Christmas Island is situated in the Indian Ocean about 190 miles South of the western extremity of Java. The island, which is densely wooded, has an area of about 60 square miles, and contains extensive deposits of phosphate of lime.

The Cocos or Keeling Islands lie about 700 miles south-west of Batavia. The largest is five miles long and a quarter of a mile wide. There are large coconut plantations, and copra, oil and nuts are exported.

Penang is an island about 15 miles long and 9 broad, and about 108 square miles in area. It is situated off the west coast of the Malay Peninsula, at the northern extremity of the Straits of Malacca. The chief town is George Town. On the opposite shore of the mainland, from which the island is separated by a strait varying in width from 2 to 10 miles, lies *Province Wellesley*, a strip of territory averaging 8 miles in width, and extending 45 miles along the coast, the whole containing an area of 280 square miles. The principal town of the province is Butterworth.

Malacca is a town situated on the west coast of the Peninsula about 110 miles from Singapore and 240 from Penang. It gives its name to the Settlement of Malacca, a strip of territory about 42 miles in length and varying in breadth from 8 to 25 miles, with a total area of about 637 square miles. At one time it gave its name to the whole peninsula, which is still known to the French as the Presqu'île de Malacca.

Labuan is an island, some 40 square miles in area, lying six miles off the north-west coast of Borneo, and distant about 725 miles from Singapore. It has a fine port, Victoria Harbour, safe and easy of access. Headquarters are at the town of Victoria.

B.—HISTORY

Malacca, said to have been founded by fugitives from the sack of Singapore in 1365 and known as an important independent state from early in the fifteenth century, is one of the oldest European Settlements in the East, having been captured by the Portuguese under Albuquerque in 1511, and held by them till 1641, when the Dutch, after frequent attempts, succeeded in driving them out. The Settlement remained in the possession of the Dutch till 1795, when it was occupied by the British. In 1818 it was restored to Holland, but was finally transferred to British rule by the Treaty of London in 1824, being exchanged for the British Settlements in Sumatra.

Under Malay and Portuguese rule Malacca was one of the great entrepôts for the commerce of the East. But, with the development of Dutch commerce in Java and the Malay Archipelago, its importance gradually declined and it ceased to be of consequence as a collecting centre, except for the trade of the Malay Peninsula and the Island of Sumatra. This trade it retained under Dutch rule till the founding of Penang by Francis Light in 1786. In a few years from that date its trade dwindled and it has never recovered its old commercial pre-eminence although the development of plantation rubber in the present century has restored to town and territory a large measure of prosperity.

The earliest British Settlement in the Malay Peninsula was Penang, or Prince of Wales Island, which was ceded in 1786 to the East India Company by the Raja of Kedah in consideration for an annual payment of \$6,000. In 1800, owing to the prevalence of piracy, a strip of the coast of the mainland, now called Province Wellesley, was also acquired from the Raja of Kedah, the annual payment being increased to \$10,000.

The island of Pangkor and the Sembilan Islands were ceded to Great Britain by Perak in 1826, for the suppression of piracy. In 1874 the cession was confirmed by the Treaty of Pangkor, by which the strip of territory on the mainland opposite, known as the Dindings, also became British and remained a part of the Settlement of Penang until its retrocession to the State of Perak in February, 1935.

In 1805 Penang was made a separate Presidency, of equal rank with Madras and Bombay. In 1826 Singapore and Malacca were incorporated with it under one Government, Penang still remaining the seat of Government. In 1836 the seat of Government was transferred to Singapore.

With the establishment of Penang the trade of Malacca passed to it. But no sooner was Singapore founded than Penang in its turn had to yield first place to the port with the better strategic position and came to depend chiefly on the local trade. At first inconsiderable that trade has become large and important with the expansion of tin mining and rubber planting in the adjacent Malay States, and the development of trade with neighbouring countries.

The original city of Singapore is said to have been founded by immigrants from Sumatra. It rose to prominence in the fourteenth century, but was destroyed by the Javanese about 1365. Thenceforth it was little more than a fishing village until Sir Stamford Raffles founded a settlement there in 1819 by virtue of a treaty with the Johore princes, and later acquired the whole island for the East India Company. The new Settlement was at first subordinate to Bencoolen in Sumatra, but in 1823, it was placed under the Government of Bengal and in 1826 was, as above stated, united with Penang and Malacca, under the Governor and Council of the Incorporated Settlements.

The Cocos or Keeling Islands were declared a British possession in 1857. In 1903, they were annexed to the Straits Settlements and incorporated with the Settlement of Singapore.

Christmas Island was annexed in 1888, and placed under the administration of the Governor of the Straits Settlements. In 1900 it was made part of the Settlement of Singapore.

Labuan was ceded to Great Britain by the Sultan of Brunei in 1846. It was governed as a separate Crown Colony until the end of 1889 after which the administration was transferred to the British North Borneo Company. At the end of 1905 the Governor of the Straits Settlements was appointed also Governor of Labuan, the island still remaining a separate Colony. In 1907 it was annexed to the Straits Settlements and declared part of the Settlement of Singapore; and in 1912 it was constituted a separate Settlement.

C.—CLIMATE

The characteristic features of the climate of the Straits Settlements are uniform temperature, high humidity and copious rainfall. The variation of temperature throughout the year is very small and the excessively high temperatures found in continental tropical areas are never experienced.

The mean temperature during 1936 was :—

Singapore (Kallang Aerodrome)	...	...	80·8°F
Penang (District Hospital)	...	...	82·0°F
Province Wellesley (Bagan Dalam)	...	...	80·8°F
Malacca (Bukit China)	...	...	79·8°F

The mean monthly maximum and minimum temperature varied as follows :—

		<i>Mean Monthly Maximum</i>		<i>Mean Monthly Minimum</i>	
		<i>Highest (°F)</i>	<i>Lowest (°F)</i>	<i>Highest (°F)</i>	<i>Lowest (°F)</i>
Singapore	...	87·7 Feb.	84·6 Oct.	77·7 July	74·5 Jan. and Dec.
Penang	...	92·4 Mar.	87·7 Oct.	75·3 April	73·4 June

The extremes of temperature (highest maximum and lowest minimum recorded were:—

		<i>Highest °F</i>	<i>Lowest °F</i>
Singapore	...	92 on 1st March	71 on 16th July and 11th October
Penang	...	95 on several days	68 on 29th February

There are no well marked dry and wet seasons, rain falling throughout the year.

Records for 64 years at Singapore show that the average annual rainfall is 95 inches. December is the wettest month with a little over 10 inches while February, May, June, July and September are the dry months with between 6½ and 7 inches. Rain falls on the average on half the days in the year.

The wettest year recorded was 1913 with 135·92 inches and the driest 1888 with 63·21 inches.

Records of 50 years at Penang show an annual rainfall of 107½ inches, October being the wettest month with nearly 17 inches and February the driest with three inches; rain falling on the average on about 165 days in the year.

The force of the monsoon is not much felt though the prevailing winds are generally in the direction of the monsoon blowing at the time *viz.* :—

S.W. from May to October,

N.E. from November to April.

At coastal stations, however, the diurnal land and sea breezes are often stronger than the prevailing monsoons.

The rainfall recorded was as follows :—

		1934	1935	1936	<i>No. of Rainfall days in 1936</i>
Singapore	...	106·55"	72·76"	85·51"	211
Penang	... ..	137·31"	107·98"	96·20"	156
Malacca	... ..	91·43"	95·92"	92·44"	201
Province Wellesley		111·13"	91·02"	94·15"	189
Labuan	... ..	124·51"	140·59"	127·82"	192

Although the days are hot, and, on account of the high humidity somewhat oppressive, the nights are almost always reasonably cool, and it rarely happens that refreshing sleep is not obtained. The effect of the heat and humidity, without seasonal change, is however cumulative, and after a few years a change to a bracing climate becomes imperative for Europeans if health is to be maintained.

CHAPTER II

Government

The Government consists of a Governor aided by an Executive Council and a Legislative Council.

The Governor is appointed by Commission under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet, during His Majesty's pleasure. His office is constituted and his powers defined by the Letters Patent dated the 17th February, 1911, as amended by the Letters Patent dated the 18th August, 1924 and the 18th March, 1935, respectively.

The Executive Council consists of the Governor as President, the General Officer Commanding the Troops, Malaya, the Colonial Secretary, the Resident Councillor, Penang, the Attorney-General, the Treasurer, the Resident Councillor, Malacca, two Official Members and three Unofficial Members. It is constituted, and its members are appointed, under the Letters Patent mentioned above and the Royal Instructions dated the 18th August, 1924, as amended by Additional Instructions dated the 23rd February, 1931 and the 12th February, 1932, respectively. The appointments of Official and Unofficial Members are nominative, and are subject to the approval or disallowance of His Majesty the King.

The Legislative Council is constituted by the Letters Patent and the Royal Instructions, and its procedure is governed by its own Standing Orders. Under the Royal Instructions dated the 18th August, 1924, the constitution of the Legislative Council was enlarged when for the first time it contained an elective element, provision being made for the election of two members by the Chambers of Commerce, Singapore and Penang, respectively. The Council is now composed of the Governor as President, eleven *ex-officio* Members, two Official Members, two elected Unofficial Members and eleven Nominated Unofficial Members. The appointments

of the Nominated Unofficial Members are subject to the confirmation or disallowance of His Majesty the King.

Legislation may be effected by Acts of the Imperial Parliament, Orders of the King in Council, and Ordinances of the Legislative Council. The Governor convokes and prorogues the Councils, initiates legislation, and assents to or vetoes Bills, or reserves them for Signification of the Royal pleasure. The King has the right to disallow the Ordinances of the Colony.

The administration of ordinary affairs, subject to the direction of the Governor in matters requiring submission to him, is carried on in Singapore by the Colonial Secretary, in Penang and Malacca by the Resident Councillors assisted by their District Officers, and in Labuan by the Resident.

The administration of the Towns of Singapore, Penang, and Malacca, is vested in the Municipalities whose members are appointed by the Governor. Similar bodies, known as Rural Boards, administer the Rural areas within the three Settlements. The Municipalities and Rural Boards are constituted under the Municipal Ordinance which also prescribes their duties and defines their powers. By its provisions, the essential and ultimate control remains vested in the Governor in Council.

CHAPTER III

Population

A.—VITAL STATISTICS

In estimating the mean population of the Straits Settlements for the year 1936, the method of calculation adopted last year has been followed. This takes account of the excess of births over deaths and the excess of emigration over immigration, or *vice versa*, since the census.

This change of method was rendered necessary by the large exodus of labourers, chiefly Chinese, Tamils and Javanese, which took place during the years 1931, 1932 and 1933. Under normal conditions these non-Malayan units form such a large proportion of the total population that the excess of emigration over immigration during the three years immediately following the census of 1931, became the dominant factor in determining the resident population, but the losses due to emigration during the slump years 1931–1933, have been almost fully regained.

The population of the Straits Settlements on June 30th, 1936, is estimated to be 1,168,197. This estimate is derived from the estimated total of 1,117,023 for 1935, adjusted in accordance with the following:—

- (a) An excess of 22,067 births over the number of deaths,
- (b) and of 29,107 representing the balance of immigrants over emigrants as at the end of the same period.

Cocos and Keeling Islands and Christmas Island which also form part of the Straits Settlements are not included, owing to the difficulty of obtaining accurate and regular figures.

The population of Christmas Island and of Cocos and Keeling Islands for 1936, is returned as 2,228 of which 1,086 are on Christmas Island. If this figure is added to the total for the rest of the Straits Settlements, then the total population is 1,170,425.

The distribution of the population by race amongst the various Settlements as on 30th June, 1936, is estimated as follows:—

	<i>Singapore</i>	<i>Penang</i>	<i>Province Wellesley</i>	<i>Malacca</i>	<i>Labuan</i>	<i>Total</i>
European ...	10,452	1,747	284	422	29	12,934
Eurasians ...	7,437	2,177	288	2,205	43	12,150
Malays ...	69,972	40,781	73,902	104,261	5,130	294,046
Chinese ...	455,191	131,183	48,394	71,239	2,397	708,404
Indians ...	51,740	28,347	24,996	24,085	147	129,315
Others ...	8,371	1,759	541	616	61	11,348
Total ...	603,163	205,994	148,405	202,828	7,807	1,168,197

The second inter decennial census carried out in Singapore town was undertaken on the night of 30th June—1st July, by the Municipal Authorities. The actual census figure obtained was 490,155 as compared with an estimated figure of 500,353 and the distribution of population by nationalities was as follows:—

Europeans ...	...	...	...	...	8,338
Eurasians ...	...	...	...	...	7,151
Malays ...	...	...	...	...	45,077
Chinese ...	...	...	...	...	374,117
Indians ...	...	...	...	...	47,402
Japanese ...	...	...	...	...	3,695
Others ...	...	...	...	...	4,375
Total ...	...	...	...	...	490,155

Government paid one-third of the cost of the census.

Births.—The births registered during the year totalled 51,788 as against 46,649 in 1935. The birth-rate was 44·33 per thousand of the estimated population; compared with 41·76 for the preceding year.

The percentage of males born was 51·18 as compared with 52·21 during the year 1935.

Deaths.—The crude death-rate was 24·91 per thousand; that for 1935 was 25·11 and the average for the ten years 1927–1936 was 26·20 as recorded in the annual report of the Registrar of Births and Deaths.

Infantile Mortality.—The infantile mortality rate was 170·85 per thousand as against 165·25 in 1935 which is the lowest yet recorded and an average of 178·27 over the ten years 1927–1936.

B.—MIGRATION STATISTICS

Measurements of migration are dealt with on a Malayan basis. Migration is a subject of special interest in Malaya owing to the attraction of the country for foreign capital and for labour from India, China and the neighbouring countries of the Archipelago, and also to the situation of Singapore and Penang at the junction of ocean trade-routes. Until 1930 immigration was practically free, and one of the important activities of Singapore was the importation of labourers from China. In that year a quota system was applied to the immigration of adult male labourers from China with the objects of reducing unemployment, raising the standard of labour and improving the sex ratio. In 1932 the Aliens Ordinance which is administered by the Immigration Department extended this control,

subject to certain temporary exceptions to all adult male immigrants of other than British or British-protected nationality.

Statistics of migration between Malaya and foreign countries by land, sea and air are collected by the Statistics Department and published monthly in the *Gazette*. These include particulars as to race, sex, proportion of minors, country of original departure or ultimate destination, and the Malayan port of entry. Tables are also published to show arrivals and departures of Chinese, Southern Indian and Javanese deck passengers, as indicating movements of labour. Copies of the summaries for the year are included in the Appendices.

Migration statistics are also, as already indicated, of importance as an aid to an estimation of the population in the periods between censuses.

The population of Malaya as ascertained by the census on the 1st April, 1931, was 4,385,346, that of the Straits Settlements being 1,114,015 or approximately one quarter. The populations on the 30th June, 1936, were estimated as 4,694,166 and 1,170,425 respectively. The immigration surplus for the year was 82,809 persons as compared with 125,206 in 1935. The total gain to the population for the two years was 208,015 persons. This gain does not, however, counterbalance the emigration surplus of 353,436 persons during the period from the 1931 Census to 31st December, 1933, the net loss to the population through migration from the Census of 1931 to the end of 1936 being 3,332 persons. The dominant factor in Malayan migration statistics is the movement of Chinese and Southern Indian labourers which is largely dependent on the welfare of Malaya's two major industries, rubber and tin. Net arrivals of Chinese, Javanese and Southern Indian deck passengers for the year 1935 amounted to 103,900. Arrivals exceeded departures throughout the year, but there was a drop in the months of February, August, November and December; the net surplus of arrivals for the year being 72,635. A further reference to movements of Southern Indian and Chinese labour is made in the following sections of this chapter.

The following table shows the racial composition of the migrational surplus or deficit during the last three years:—

MIGRATIONAL SURPLUS, MALAYA

<i>Race</i>				<i>1934</i>	<i>1935</i>	<i>1936</i>				
Europeans and Americans	...	+	1,599	+	1,674	+	2,773			
Eurasians	...	+	263	+	145	+	70			
Japanese	...	+	423	+	365	+	429			
Chinese	...	+	61,639	+	90,986	+	75,801			
Malays	...	+	3,425	—	3,060	—	4,326			
Northern Indians	...	+	7,132	+	3,848	+	2,061			
Southern Indians	...	+	66,666	+	33,045	+	7,909			
Others	...	+	942	—	1,797	—	1,908			
Total				...	+	142,089	+	125,206	+	82,809

For the year 1936 the total number of arrivals (to the nearest thousand) was 526,000, a decrease of 4 per cent. and of departures 443,000, an increase of 5 per cent.

The majority of passengers travelled by sea. Penang and Port Swettenham were the main ports of entry for Southern Indian labourers, but for other races Singapore was the main port of entry and departure. Migration by land hardly exists, except for the ebb and flow of Malays,

Chinese and Siamese resident on their side of the border between Siam and Malaya, and over a period of years the population of Malaya is little affected by it. Passenger transport by air is growing and showed a bigger increase than in 1935. Most of the passengers travelling by air were Europeans, but increasing numbers of Japanese, Chinese and Malay passengers were recorded.

C.—MOVEMENTS OF LABOUR

(i).—INDIAN IMMIGRATION*

(a) The total number of immigrants from Southern India who arrived at Penang by the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers in 1936 was 43,191. This is less by 22,000 than the figure of 65,191 for 1935.

The immigrants were of the following classes:—

Assisted immigrants (labourers and dependants assisted to emigrate at the expense of the Indian Immigration Fund for work on estates, etc., in Malaya) ...	...	3,754
Non-assisted immigrants (traders and others who paid their own passages) ...	...	39,437
Total ...		43,191

Of the non-assisted immigrants 24,104 (61%), were of the labouring classes, the remaining 15,333 being traders and others. It is estimated that about one-third of the non-assisted immigrants remained in the Colony, the remainder proceeding to the Federated Malay States and Unfederated Malay States. Of the assisted immigrants, 200 arrived to work in the Colony.

The following table shows the number of assisted passages taken during the last five years, for labourers and their families from Southern India to Malaya, and paid for from the Indian Immigration Fund:—

1932	...	...	...	...	12
1933	...	...	...	...	13
1934	...	...	...	...	36,712
1935	...	...	...	...	16,709
1936	...	...	...	...	3,097

The fall in the number of assisted immigrants in 1936 as compared with 1935 was due to the decline in the demand for labour consequent on the working of the Rubber Restriction Scheme.

(b) In addition to the immigrants who arrived by the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers 1,075 deck passengers arrived by steamers of the Messageries Maritimes line.

(ii).—INDIAN EMIGRATION

(a) The number of deck passengers who left Penang for Southern India by the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers in 1936 was 40,075 (34,596 adults, 2,927 minors and 2,552 infants) as against 38,392 (33,726 adults, 2,444 minors and 2,222 infants) in 1935.

Of the above, 28,300 adults, accompanied by 1,393 minors and 1,753 infants, paid their own passages, while 6,296 adults, 1,534 minors and 799 infants were repatriated through the Labour Department.

* The word immigrant, as used here in connection with Indian immigration, means a deck-passenger only, and does not include first or second class passengers.

Of those repatriated through the Labour Department most of the 5,713 adults, accompanied by 1,394 minors and 728 infants, were unfit for work, while the remaining 583 adults, 140 minors and 71 infants were repatriated at the expense of private employers or Government Departments or on free passages granted by the British India Steam Navigation Company.

The repatriates from the Colony were made up as follows :—

	<i>Adults</i>	<i>Minors</i>	<i>Infants</i>
1. Sent at the expense of the Straits Settlements Government and Indian Immigration Fund ...	868	149	60
2. Sent at the expense of estates and Government Departments ...	60	6	2
3. Carried free of charge by the British India Steam Navigation Company ...	66	11	5
	<hr/> 994	<hr/> 166	<hr/> 67

There was throughout the year a steadily maintained return traffic to India of labourers paying their own passages, traders and other deck passengers.

The number of adult labourers was 14,916 as against 13,364 in 1935 while the number of traders and other non-labourers was 13,384 as against 15,825 in 1935.

(b) In addition to the above, 482 deck passengers left for South India by steamers of the Messageries Maritimes.

(iii).—CHINESE IMMIGRATION

The immigration of adult male Chinese aliens arriving in the Colony from China ports (including Hong Kong) was restricted by Proclamation under the Aliens Ordinance. The quota was fixed at 4,000 a month throughout the year. This restriction applies to adult male Chinese arriving on the ships of the six quota companies. Other shipping companies are restricted to a total of 25 a month each.

Alien Chinese in possession of certificates of admission or certificates of residence issued under the Aliens Ordinance in the Colony or under a corresponding Aliens Enactment in a Malay State are exempted from the provisions of Part I of the Aliens Ordinance and are therefore not counted against the quota.

The total number of Chinese entering the Colony under the quota during the year was 47,859.

The total number of Chinese who arrived on non-quota ships was 2,760.

The total number of Chinese who arrived in possession of certificates of admission or certificates of residence was 18,939.

The total number of male Chinese from China ports (including Hong Kong) who arrived during the year was, therefore, 69,558, compared with 81,775 in 1935, 52,023 in 1934, 13,535 in 1933, 18,741 in 1932 and 50,120 in 1931.

No restriction is placed on the immigration of women and children. 49,632 women and 24,141 children entered the Colony from China ports. The corresponding figures for the last five years were :—

				<i>Women</i>	<i>Children</i>
1931	...	...	...	17,042	11,923
1932	...	...	...	8,652	6,141
1933	...	...	...	8,199	6,062
1934	...	...	...	29,678	17,163
1935	...	...	...	38,621	21,496

The number of women to a thousand men arriving from China ports during the years 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935 and 1936 was 340, 462, 605, 570, 472 and 713 respectively.

(iv).—CHINESE EMIGRATION

The total number of Chinese deck passengers leaving Malayan ports for China during the year was 80,578 as against 69,025 in 1935.

Fares for deck passengers to and from China were as follows :—

The fares from Singapore to China ports at the end of the year were from \$11 to \$18 to Hong Kong and \$13 to \$22 to Amoy and Swatow (Straits Currency).

For passengers counted against the quota from Amoy, Swatow and Hong Kong to Singapore the fares varied as follows :—

\$50 to \$55 (China currency) and \$55 (China currency) and \$40 to \$50 (Hong Kong currency) respectively.

For passengers not counted against the quota from Amoy, Swatow and Hong Kong to Singapore the fares were \$35 to \$45 (China currency), \$30 to \$45 (China currency) and \$25 to \$35 (Hong Kong currency) respectively.

All the fares above quoted were subject to broker's commission.

CHAPTER IV

Health

A.—PREVALENCE OF, AND MORTALITY ARISING FROM THE PRINCIPAL DISEASES

(i).—GENERAL

(1) *Malaria* accounted for one thousand three hundred and fifteen deaths as compared with 1,698 for the year 1935. This low figure is reflected, as is usual in these circumstances, in the number of deaths due to fever unspecified which was 3,562 compared with 3,787 in 1935.

(2) *Tuberculosis*.—Two thousand three hundred and sixty-two deaths were registered as due to tuberculosis as compared with 2,267 for 1935. Pulmonary tuberculosis was responsible for 2,181 deaths equivalent to 7.5% of the total deaths for all causes. The measures taken for prevention may be classified under four main headings :—

(a) *Education*.—Every endeavour is made by means of films, posters, leaflets, informal talks, etc., to educate the people in methods of cleanliness and personal hygiene with a view to avoiding infection and limiting its spread.

(b) *Improvement of housing and general sanitation.*—The Singapore Improvement Trust's policy of constructing backlanes in the congested areas, was energetically continued during the year. There are also schemes for the demolition of slums, the building of cottages and tenements and the establishment of open spaces.

(c) *Special measures of sanitation.*—Preventive and curative measures against malaria and ankylostomiasis are carried out on a large scale and have the effect of improving the general health and raising the natural resistance of the people against infection by tuberculosis.

(d) *Hospital treatment.*—Beds for tuberculous cases are available in Government hospitals and beds for the special treatment of tuberculosis exist in the General Hospitals in Singapore, Penang and Malacca, and also in Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Singapore.

(3) *Pneumonia.*—Pneumonia caused 2,624 deaths as against 2,541 in 1935, giving a percentage of 90·2 per thousand deaths.

(4) *Beri-beri.*—One thousand and eighty deaths were caused by beri-beri as compared with 916 deaths in the previous year.

(5) *Dysentery.*—The deaths from this disease totalled 314. The mortality rate from this disease is steadily decreasing.

(ii).—DANGEROUS INFECTIOUS DISEASES

(1) *Plague.*—No case occurred.

(2) *Cholera.*—No case occurred.

(3) *Small-pox.*—No case occurred.

(4) *Cerebro-spinal fever.*—Twenty-one cases occurred of which nineteen died.

(iii).—VENEREAL DISEASES

The treatment of this disease is supervised by the Chief Medical Officer, Social Hygiene, who is the officer in immediate charge of a special branch of the Medical Department known as the Social Hygiene Branch.

The treatment centres in the Straits Settlements, which number 26, are distributed as follows:—

Singapore	...	...	...	...	7
Penang (including Province Wellesley)	...	...	...	...	12
Malacca	...	...	...	...	7

Singapore.—The number of new cases treated shows an increase on the previous year:—

1935	...	...	...	...	9,966 cases
1936	...	...	...	...	11,051 ,,

Penang.—The figures for 1936 shows an increase of 378 cases as compared with that of 1935:—

1935	...	...	...	...	6,774 cases
1936	...	...	...	...	7,152 ,,

Malacca.—There was also an increase in the Settlement of Malacca, as shown in the following figures:—

1935	...	...	...	...	3,601 cases
1936	...	...	...	...	4,477 ,,

Number of Seamen treated.—The new admissions to the clinics for sailors of whom 260 were British and 139 non-British Europeans, totalled 1,064. Of the remainder, 552 were Chinese, 9 Malays, 64 Indians and 44 other races.

Serological Reactions.—Three thousand and twenty-nine and fifteen thousand nine hundred and eighty specimens of blood were submitted for Kahn and Wassermann tests respectively, of which 907 and 6,153 gave positive results.

Propaganda.—Pamphlets and leaflets were freely distributed to the public, and posters drawing the attention to the dangers of venereal disease and the facilities for free treatment, have been displayed throughout the town of Singapore.

(iv).—YAWS

There was a decrease in the number of cases of yaws treated during the year :—

Cases of yaws treated in 1935	...	...	8,222
Cases of yaws treated in 1936	...	...	5,711

The travelling dispensaries which visit the rural areas afford full facilities for the treatment of this disease which occurs chiefly among the Malays. The treatment has been so successful that it has gained the confidence of the villagers. Few cases now remained untreated for long in the areas where there are Government hospitals and dispensaries.

(v).—BUILDINGS

No building operations of any magnitude were undertaken for the Medical Department at Singapore.

At Penang the old first class and second class wards were reconstructed and are now incorporated in the new General Hospital.

A new camp was erected at Pulau Jerejak Leper Settlement.

B.—HOSPITALS, ETC.

(i).—HOSPITALS

The total number of inpatients treated in the hospitals of the Colony was 72,135 as compared with 72,222 in the preceding year. The malaria admissions accounted for 9,502, those for the preceding year were 12,478.

Admissions for venereal disease totalled 2,595 with 109 deaths, as against 3,020 with 156 deaths in the previous year.

Admissions for tuberculosis increased to 2,876 with 1,108 deaths as compared with 2,447 admissions and 868 deaths in 1935.

There were one thousand six hundred and eighty-four admissions for pneumonia with 974 deaths as against 1,672 admissions with 934 deaths in the previous year.

(ii).—DISPENSARIES

The number of out-patients treated at Government dispensaries and the number of attendances were as follows :—

	1935	1936
Number of out-patients	... 215,406	184,298
Number of attendances	... 435,514	434,770

There was an increase in the number of attendances at the Women's and Children's Out-door Dispensary at Kandang Kerbau, Singapore, the figures being 45,404 in 1935, and 59,183 in 1936.

The attendances at the Women's and Children's Dispensary in Penang, were :—

			1935	1936
Attendances	...	...	21,728	25,415

At the Women's and Children's Out-door Dispensary at Malacca, 13,529 attended during 1936, compared with 13,706 in 1935, whilst at Merlimau and Masjid Tanah, the numbers totalled 1,233 and 864 for the period under review, compared with 2,207 and 1,582 for 1935, respectively.

(iii).—MOTOR TRAVELLING DISPENSARIES

There are up-to-date motor travelling dispensaries in Singapore, Penang, Malacca and Province Wellesley.

Men, women and children of all nationalities who are suffering from minor ailments and who reside in the outlying districts of each Settlement, obtain treatment from these dispensaries.

The attendances for the whole Colony totalled :—

1936	...	...	...	107,896 attendances
1935	...	...	...	111,498 „

(iv).—LEPER SETTLEMENTS

Pulau Jerejak Settlement.—Up-to-date treatment for leprosy is given with encouraging results to early cases. The treatment is available for all who need it.

Its success is evidenced by the fact that 22 cases have been discharged as non-infective during the year under review; the numbers of cases so discharged for the years 1933, 1934 and 1935, were 45, 30 and 56, respectively. Every encouragement is given to the inmates to work in the settlement, and those who are quite strong are generally employed as artisans, woodcutters, dhobies, etc. Those who are educated, are given employment as teachers, dressers and overseers. There are quite a number who do carpentry, vegetable and fruit gardening and some fishing and poultry farming.

The good standard of education provided by both the English school and the Chinese school, has been maintained. Several successful performances were given by the dramatic troupes of the settlement. There are 43 Boy Scouts; drills have been carried out regularly during the year under review. The Scouts also take part in outdoor sports. The brass band continues to be popular and has given much pleasure to the inmates.

Singapore Settlement.—The settlement at Singapore has accommodation for male and female lepers, but male patients are transferred to Pulau Jerejak as early as possible. The method of treatment was the same as in previous years except that a greater number of patients received injections of non-iodised ethyl esters. An investigation is being carried out on the subject of infection by yaws and treatment by yaws therapy and at the end of the period under review 42 cases were being treated. At all religious and national festivals the inmates were entertained with a special dietary while amusements were provided from donations by various individuals and religious sects.

A “lepers aid fund” was initiated towards the close of the year.

(v).—MENTAL HOSPITAL

One thousand three hundred and ninety-seven patients remained in hospital at the beginning of the year; the admissions numbered 619 in 1936. Discharges, deaths and abscondings totalled 607. The number of patients remaining at the end of 1936 was 1,409. The admissions showed an increase of 22 over those for 1935. The recovery rate was 44·10% of the admissions.

C.—HEALTH AND SANITATION

(i)—QUARANTINE

Eight hundred and eighty-five visits in Singapore and 536 visits in Penang (as against 756 and 423 respectively in 1935) were paid to ships by Port Health Officers. Four hundred and twenty-eight thousand one hundred and ninety-four persons were examined during the year as compared with 415,540 in 1935.

Twenty-seven thousand nine hundred and eighteen persons were detained under observation in the Quarantine Stations at Singapore and Penang.

The number of persons from ships treated for infectious diseases at Singapore Quarantine Station was 1 for small-pox. At the Penang Quarantine Station 1 was treated for small-pox and 1 for cholera.

The Port Health work of Malacca is carried out by the Health Officer and Deputy Health Officer. Two hundred and two vessels visited Malacca during 1936 and 24 of these were inspected.

(ii).—RURAL CONSERVANCY

Singapore.—In all areas a system of nightsoil removal by contract is carried out. Bored-hole latrines are constructed where sites are suitable. A total of 365 bored-hole latrines were constructed during the year. It is hoped to proceed rapidly with these structures as they are more satisfactory in every way for the majority of the rural dwellers than any other type of latrine.

In the more populous areas the bucket latrine system is most common. There are 4,867 houses on the nightsoil removal list. The nightsoil is collected and carried to trenching grounds where it is properly trenched under the supervision of Sanitary Inspectors.

In addition to the bucket system there are houses equipped with the water borne sewage systems. The method of disposal is by septic tank installations. There are 61 of these disposal plants in the Rural Area.

Every householder is required to have a sanitary dust bin. The contents of these bins are removed every morning by handcarts. At the roadside collection stations there are large iron dust bins wherein all domestic and street refuse is deposited. The removal from these stations is carried out by motor lorries. There are 26 small type slow combustion incinerators in use and 4 "controlled tipping" grounds.

Penang.—Pail latrines are obligatory in places where buildings are close together; elsewhere in villages and throughout the rural area bored-hole latrines or corresponding types of sanitary conveniences are provided by the responsible occupier. Throughout the residential area of Penang Hill and in a number of residences along the coast road, water carriage and septic tank systems are installed.

During the year 900 latrines have been constructed or reconditioned. Insanitary latrines to the number of 138 have been demolished. Three hundred and sixty-eight bored-hole latrines have been constructed and 363 pit latrines have been dug.

There are 41 village incinerators within gazetted areas and 3 on Penang Hill most of which have given good service throughout the year. Domestic refuse together with road sweepings is collected in refuse bins placed on concrete platforms along the roadside and disposed of either by incineration in the village incinerators or by "controlled tipping".

Malacca.—Sewage disposal in the rural area is carried out by direct Chinese labour. In most villages the nightsoil is disposed of by trenching or by dumping in bore-holes, or deep covered pits, but two villages (Jasin and Sungei Rambei) have septic tanks for the disposal of nightsoil.

South Indian coolies under the control of the Health Officer are employed for the disposal of refuse. The rubbish is disposed of by incineration and new Horsfall incinerators with large concrete sorting platforms partially covered by asbestos roofing were installed during the year.

Labuan.—The collection of nightsoil is done by coolies and disposal is by dumping. The total number of pails on the removal list was 343. Trenching is so far very satisfactory.

(iii).—ANTI-MALARIAL WORK

The protection of the population from malaria in towns and villages of the Straits Settlements is an important duty of the Government and Municipal Health Authorities in their respective areas.

The total expenditure by Government on anti-malarial measures undertaken in the rural areas during the year was \$170,965.11.

The establishment of anti-mosquito and malaria protection zones in the rural areas continues to be a major undertaking for the Government Health Department. The extension of the areas occupied by the Naval, Military and Royal Air Forces in Singapore and increase greater private building activity in the rural areas of Singapore and Penang has necessitated an increase in malaria protection zones.

The problem of malaria in the rural areas is rendered difficult by the widespread distribution of breeding places or *Anopheles maculatus*. Measures are directed against the larval stage of the mosquito, this work is associated also with general sanitary measures and, in some selected areas, with drug prophylaxis.

The practice of anti-larval control consists of applying larvicide to all the breeding places of dangerous mosquitoes within the protection zones; permanent protection works such as drainage and earth filling are then taken in hand so as to replace by gradual degrees such anti-malarial measures as are lacking in permanence and reliability.

Considerable work has been carried out in connection with the sluicing of ravines and streams. Automatic sluices have been designed and constructed and experiments conducted up-to-date have indicated that this is a very useful addition to existing methods for anti-larval control.

CHAPTER V

Housing

In the principal towns of the Colony the various types of houses may be classified as follows :—

- (a) Houses with gardens occupied by the well-to-do residents.
- (b) Semi-detached houses or small bungalows occupied by less prosperous, or the less well-paid of the salary classes.
- (c) Terrace houses for clerks and people of similar standing.
- (d) Shop-houses.
- (e) Common lodging houses, which are frequently over-crowded.
- (f) Tenements in closely built areas, and
- (g) Wood-huts or semi-permanent houses in the out-skirts of the city.

The houses in the first category, occupied by the European residents and the wealthier Asiatics, vary greatly in type from the old Colonial style mostly built of wood, with its wide open verandas and large rooms to the more modern types built substantially of brick or concrete and designed for economical household management. The small semi-detached houses and bungalows generally differ from the houses of the wealthier only in size, and nearly all in Singapore, at least have the advantages of modern lighting and sanitation. In Singapore, flats are becoming increasingly popular with both the above section of the community and the considerable increase that has taken place in the garrison is likely to encourage this development. The terrace houses occupied by the clerical classes are necessarily humbler in character than the "compound" and semi-detached houses. Even these, however, afford good accommodation, are well ventilated and in some areas in the larger towns at least have modern sanitation as well as lighting.

Shop-houses in the older parts of the towns are generally built in rows, of solid construction and two or more stories in height, but too frequently they are insufficiently ventilated and for many streets no back lanes are provided. Poor ventilation, of course, conduces to the spread of tuberculosis and the absence of back-lanes interferes with proper sanitation. The upper stories of many of these houses are divided into small cubicles with temporary partitions, erected without regard to the need of light and air, and it is in these that the worst overcrowding is found. Unfortunately too many of the labouring and artisan classes find their homes in such cubicles or in the common lodging houses of the most densely populated areas, which frequently consist of just an overcrowded dormitory above a shop or store.

With such conditions prevailing it is not surprising that tuberculosis is prevalent in urban areas or that the infantile death-rate is still high; but social workers and others who have studied the problem of slum-clearance and re-housing in the larger seaport towns at home will appreciate the extra difficulties that attend its solution in a country where the main areas affected are occupied by a transient Asiatic population inured for generations to a standard of living compared with which their present circumstances give little cause for complaint. The Government, however, and the educated elements of the populations, European and Asiatic, are fully alive to the needs of the situation, and the first steps have already been taken to deal with the re-housing of the poorer classes of the population in Singapore, Penang and Malacca, the three principal towns of the Colony.

In Singapore, such measures fall within the scope of operations of the Singapore Improvement Trust, a body especially incorporated for the purpose by an Ordinance passed in 1927.

The Improvement Trust has adopted a fixed programme for the driving of back-lanes through congested areas, and expects that action will have been completed in all the worst areas within the next two or three years. It had already acquired several large blocks of slum-property before the end of 1934, and had demolished them for reconstruction or the establishment of open spaces. Further, about fifty acres of waste land at Tiong Bharu, adjoining a particularly crowded Chinese area, had been bought, filled in, provided with roads, and laid out in building lots for sale, with a view to relieving the prevailing congestion. During the year under review progress was steadily maintained. Fourteen new back-lanes were completed, enabling 220 more houses to be connected to the Municipal sewers, 36 houses of unsatisfactory design were bought and 31 were demolished. Eleven contracts for reconstruction of rear portions of houses affected by back-lanes were let out in 1936, and eight plans for back-lanes were submitted to Government for approval. During the year a block of 32 flats and 5 shops of modern design were completed and occupied at Tiong Bahru, and work was commenced on a further block of 18 flats and 2 shops in the same area. The Trust also commenced the erection of 54 more artisans' quarters at Balestier Road. No less than 149 layouts for the development of private property on modern and sanitary lines were considered and approved, and a number of blocks of old property in the town were inspected and new layouts prepared with a view to action under the Singapore Improvement Ordinance. Unfortunately, a legal dispute has arisen in regard to the Trust's powers to deal with major schemes of slum clearance and this has led to some delay in the execution of these schemes. A Committee has been appointed to go into the question of clarifying the law and is now sitting.

In Penang and Malacca, where the problems to be met and solved are neither so great nor so pressing as those of Singapore, all measures of town-improvement are undertaken by the Municipal Commissioners under the provisions of the Municipal Ordinance and, while development has not been possible on the same scale as the work undertaken by the Improvement Trust in Singapore, a great deal has been accomplished during the last ten years and the work is still progressing. The Health Department freely uses its powers to enforce the demolition of insanitary dwellings, and strict control of common lodging houses is maintained to prevent overcrowding and preserve a decent standard of sanitation. During the year two special schemes of slum-clearance in the most congested area in Penang, were successfully carried through at a cost of \$240,000.

In rural districts though brick shop-houses with tiled roofs are found in the larger villages, the houses are generally of old Malay or Chinese types, built of planks with roofs of attap, a very efficient native type of thatching with dried palm fronds. The wood and attap houses are usually owned by the occupiers, and as a general rule are clean and well-ventilated, besides being admirably suited to the climate and cool and comfortable to live in. Those of the Malay small-holder or peasant are raised about four to six feet above the ground level, and are especially well-ventilated, cool and comfortable. The brick-and-tile shop-houses in the villages, like those in the towns, lend themselves to overcrowding, but the evils are less pronounced in rural areas. Planning schemes have been evolved for most gazetted villages, demolition notices are enforced against insanitary buildings whenever necessary, and the work of providing all dwellings with

sanitary latrines is proceeding rapidly. For all new buildings, in Municipal and Rural Board areas, strict compliance with the building by-laws is now enforced, although it is impossible, and indeed unnecessary, to insist on the standards devised for the wealthier municipal areas in the rural areas where expense is a much greater consideration. There are no building societies in the Straits Settlements.

Labourers on rubber estates are usually housed in barracks consisting of single rooms with kitchens attached. Nearly all of these buildings conform to an approved standard design and frequent inspections by the health authorities and the officers of the Labour Department, prevent overcrowding and ensure decent upkeep and cleanliness.

CHAPTER VI

A.—AGRICULTURE

GENERAL

The principal crops grown in the Colony are rubber, coconuts, rice and pineapples; the areas cultivated thereunder in each Settlement during the year were as follows:—

<i>Crop.</i>	<i>Province Wellesley and Penang</i>	<i>Malacca</i>	<i>Singapore</i>	<i>Total Straits Settlement</i>
	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(acres)</i>
Rubber	... 84,977	189,661	54,073	328,711
Coconuts	... 46,831	13,498	8,360	68,689
Rice	... 35,700	32,050	nil	67,750
Pineapples	... 559	542	5,250	6,351

Crops of secondary importance are fruits, vegetables, arecanuts, tobacco, derris, spices, coffee and tapioca. Only rubber and coconuts are grown by Europeans and Asiatics on a large scale, and also by Asiatics on small holdings.

(i).—CROPS GROWN BY EUROPEANS AND ASIATICS

Rubber.—The total area under rubber in the Straits Settlements at the end of 1936 was estimated to be 328,711 acres, distributed as follows:—

<i>Settlement</i>	<i>Estates of 100 acres and over (acres)</i>	<i>Small-holdings of less than 100 acres (acres)</i>	<i>Total (acres)</i>
P.W. and Penang	... 48,157	36,820	84,977
Malacca	... 123,466	66,195	189,661
Singapore	... 33,482	20,591	54,073
Total	... 205,105	123,606*	328,711

Of the area cultivated on estates 128,470 acres were grown on European-owned estates and 76,635 acres on Asiatic-owned estates.

The average price per pound of standard smoked sheet in Singapore for the year was 27.04 cents, as compared with 20.25 cents in 1935. The price rose steadily from 22 $\frac{3}{8}$ cents at the beginning of the year to 26 $\frac{1}{16}$

* Figures for small holdings are as at the end of 1935, adjusted to include 1936 replantings.

cents in the middle of the year. Prices then remained fairly steady until October when there was a gradual rise to 28 11/16. In November and December there was a further improvement in prices, culminating at the end of the year with a sharp rise to 39 5/8 cents per pound.

The International Rubber Regulation continued in force throughout the year. Under this Agreement Malaya received a quota of 569,000 tons. The international quota release for the first two quarters of the year was 60 per cent., and for the third and fourth quarters 65 per cent., and the domestic release was the same. The total permissible export for the year was thus 355,625 tons. The share of Malaya's quota allotted to the Straits Settlements by the Controller of Rubber was 50,800 tons. The declared production of rubber for the Colony was 31,929 tons, of which 19,397 tons were produced on large estates and 12,532 tons from small holdings. The greater part of the crop was produced in the form of standard smoked sheet, but there was also an appreciable export of rubber in the form of latex; the quantity exported in this form from Malaya was estimated to amount to 16,937 tons on the basis of dry rubber content.

Replanting on estates almost invariably is carried out with budded stock. The total area of budded rubber in the Colony is now 3,833 acres, of which 403 acres were budded in the year under review.

The regulation scheme worked effectively throughout the year.

In spite of the low percentage of the quota allowed, the improved price of rubber enabled most estates to produce at a profit, in addition to which many estates were able to finance from profits improvements which had been postponed during the period of low prices before the introduction of the present rubber regulation scheme.

The general maintenance and management of small holdings shewed some improvement and there was considerable improvement in the preparation of the product. These improvements have been made possible by the work of the Asiatic Rubber Instructors who are trained firstly in the School of Agriculture, Malaya, and then at the Rubber Research Institute.

A small cheaply erected smoke cabinet for small-holders' use was designed by the Rubber Research Institute, being an improved edition of one found in actual use by a small-holder in Perak. It has been demonstrated that these cabinets are capable of turning out smoked sheet up to European standard and small-holders experience no difficulty in working them. Their general adoption at present is limited owing to marketing difficulties, as in many localities the difference in price between smoked and unsmoked sheet offered by local dealers is too small to make smoking by the small-holder economically advantageous to him. A difference of at least \$1 a picul is required to make it profitable for a small-holder to smoke his own rubber in areas where he has little opportunity to find outside employment: where outside employment is available at market rates more than \$1 difference is required to make the smoking of his rubber profitable.

Diseases of the rubber tree on small holdings gave no cause for alarm. Wherever such diseases caused anxiety, special demonstrations and instructions were instituted which, coupled with the sale of efficient fungicide at cost price, led to an improvement.

There was an increase in the amount of attention shown by estates to manuring. Manuring is being done in nearly all cases of replanting. Interest has been shown on estates in cover plants, both cultivated leguminous and "natural" types. The value of covers in old rubber is

now fully appreciated as is also the necessity of supplementing them with manures.

The area out of tapping on estates in the Straits Settlements at the end of the year was 29·4 per cent., as compared with 27·7 per cent. at the end of the year 1935. On small holdings, however, the area out of tapping decreased from 28 to 18 per cent.

Coconuts and Coconut Products.—The total area under coconut is estimated to be 72,130 acres, of which 46,831 acres are in Province Wellesley and Penang, 13,498 acres in Malacca, 8,360 acres in Singapore, 3,422 acres in Labuan and 19 acres in Christmas Island. Of the total area, about 18,000 acres are contained on estates of over 100 acres each.

The crop from estates is almost entirely used for the preparation of copra. On small holdings, however, the disposal of the crop varies in different districts. Large quantities of nuts are consumed in the fresh state by the owners and for local sale. In parts of Province Wellesley most of the crop is exported as fresh nuts to Burma; exports from the Colony in 1936 amounted to 11,415,800 nuts. In other parts of the Province copra manufacture is usual. In Malacca, copra making remains of secondary importance as nuts can be sold at a high price for consumption as food. In Singapore, too, there is a ready market for fresh nuts, although in some areas copra kilns were in operation throughout the year. The palms in Singapore are mostly very old, in consequence of which yields are stated to be steadily decreasing.

Efforts have been made to improve the quality of copra produced in Province Wellesley and Penang. Owing to the disruption of the copra trade in this area by reason of the export of fresh nuts, little headway has been made. In Malacca an effort has been made to devise a workable scheme whereby Malays can market their nuts collectively in inland districts when prices are good.

Serious outbreaks of frond-eating caterpillars mostly of the moth *Chalcoscelis* occurred in Province Wellesley during the early part of the year, but were brought under control. No other serious outbreaks of pests occurred during the year.

The amount of the annual crop of coconuts is unknown. In view of the large local consumption, the only indication of production is by examination of export figures.

The seasonal drop in crop which normally occurs in August and September was unusually marked and prolonged in all coconut areas, and production had not returned to normal by the end of the year. The decreased yield was the more noticeable as it coincided with a greatly increased demand for copra and consequently a rise in price.

A feature of the industry is the continued growth of the trade in preparing and exporting coconut oil. There are several oil mills in the Colony, which use imported copra as well as the local product for this purpose. The Malayan net exports of oil in 1936 were 46,507 tons as compared with 35,910 in the previous year, and 12,000 tons in 1932. Consequent upon the development of this industry the exports of "poonac" (coconut cake) have steadily increased from 8,145 tons in 1932 to 20,438 tons in 1936. As is to be expected, under these circumstances, the net exports of copra have declined, and in 1936 amounted to 76,681 tons as compared with 111,753 tons in the previous year and 97,277 tons in 1932.

The price of copra improved early in the year, but was not maintained. In June a gradual improvement commenced, culminating in a sharp rise in

November and December. The average price in Singapore of sun-dried copra was \$5.81 per picul, the "mixed" quality being 43 cents lower. Corresponding prices in 1935 were \$4.54 with the "mixed" 39 cents lower. Coconut oil realized an average price of \$11.96 per picul, as compared with \$9.13 in 1935 and \$5.96 in 1934.

The improved price of copra enabled more attention to be given to cultural conditions on estates. Particular interest was shown in the question of water movement in relation to crop yields. The study of the question of copra preparation which has engaged the attention of the officers of the Department of Agriculture and has been closely followed by managers of coconut estates has borne results as is seen by the improvement in the quality of estate copra which has been reflected in prices realized, as compared with standard quotations.

A proposal for introducing legislation to effect the grading of copra under a "Malayan Mark" scheme was discussed, but failed to obtain sufficient support amongst interested parties to render its introduction advisable.

Coffee.—Coffee is grown to a small extent on estates and small holdings in Malacca. The produce is sold for local consumption.

(ii).—CROPS GROWN EXCLUSIVELY BY ASIATICS

Rice.—The cultivation of rice is the most important of the crops grown exclusively by Asiatics, most of whom are Malays. The main centres of cultivation are on the coastal alluvial lands in Province Wellesley and Malacca, and the shallow valleys in the inland districts of Malacca and Penang Island.

The area planted with rice in the Straits Settlements in the season 1935-36, and the yields were as follows:—

Territory	WET		DRY		TOTAL	
	Acres	Gantangs	Acres	Gantangs	Acres	Gantangs
Province Wellesley	31,240	10,409,000	450	193,000	31,690	10,602,000
Malacca ..	32,050	12,778,000	..	..	32,050	12,778,000
Penang ..	4,010	1,807,000	..	..	4,010	1,807,000
Total ..	67,300	24,994,000	450	193,000	67,750	25,187,000

The total area planted was 750 acres less than in the previous season, while the total crop harvested was down by 4,109,000 gantangs.*

Two systems of padi cultivation—the wet and the dry—are in vogue in Malaya; the latter system in which the seed is sown on dry land, is relatively unimportant. Under the wet system, the seed is sown in a nursery and later transplanted in inundated fields where the soil has been prepared by puddling. The crop may take about six months to reach maturity, but only one crop a year is removed from the land.

* A gantang is an Imperial gallon. About 700 gantangs of padi (rice in the husk) will produce 1 ton of cleaned rice.

Extremely wet weather during the growing period in the Province resulted in a decreased yield compared with the previous season. In parts of Malacca floods were responsible for a large reduction in yield. Yields on the whole, however, were considered satisfactory, the mean yield for the Colony being 372 gantangs per acre.

The wholesale price of rice appreciated considerably in 1935 and prices were well maintained in 1936 at the higher level. The average prices per picul of the three principal grades of imported rice were:—Siam No. 2, \$3.86, Rangoon No. 1, \$3.44, Saigon No. 1, \$3.59. The average wholesale price was \$3.63 per picul which was 3 per cent. less than that recorded in 1935.

Manurial and cultural experiments were continued by the Department of Agriculture, and a number of Padi Test Stations maintained for proving the worth of improved varieties of rice when grown under varying local conditions. The demand for pure-strain seed in Malacca exceeded the supply available at the Padi Station of Pulau Gadong.

Rats proved the most serious pest during the growing season; they were kept under control in Malacca and the Province by rat control organisations.

Pineapples.—Pineapple canning is an important industry in Singapore. Some fruit for canning is grown on Singapore Island, but the major portion is obtained from south Johore. Smaller areas exist in Malacca and Penang, the fruit being sold for local consumption in a fresh state.

The total area in Singapore cultivated with pineapple during 1936 was 5,250 acres, 3,000 acres of which were planted as a sole crop, and 2,250 acres interplanted in mixed cultivation; the planted area showed a decrease of 1,750 acres as compared with the previous year. Several areas which had been cropped with pineapples for a number of years were cleared of this crop and planted with vegetables and derris, as the land had become unproductive under continuous cropping with pineapples. Whereas the area decreased in Singapore, there is a considerable increase in the area under this crop in Johore so that there is no fear of a shortage of fruit for the Singapore factories.

There were four pineapple factories in operation in Singapore, three of which were reconstructed and continued canning operations throughout the two main fruiting seasons of the year. The factories were re-built to meet the specifications laid down under the Pineapple Industry Ordinance, 1934, under which legislation insanitary factories are refused registration. In consequence of reconstruction and close supervision, a considerable improvement took place in factory conditions.

Nearly two and a half million cases of pineapples were exported from Malaya in 1936, most of which was canned in Singapore and Johore, and shipped from Singapore.

The Pineapple Experiment Station at Lim Chu Kang, Singapore, was maintained and carried out experiments which indicate that if pineapples are to be grown profitably as a sole crop, manuring must probably be on a fairly generous scale and planting distances must be very much closer than those normally used in Malayan practice, with the object both of obtaining heavier crops per acre and minimising the loss of fertility from exposure and erosion.

A special Canning Officer of the Department of Agriculture was appointed early in 1936 and has initiated investigations on several problems.

The average Singapore prices per case of 48 cans of 1½ lb. each of Malayan pineapples were as follows:—

Year	Cubes	Sliced flat	Sliced tall	FRESH FRUIT PER 100	
				First quality	Second quality
	\$	\$	\$		
1934	3·10	3·01	3·19	2·52	1·38
1935	3·47	3·27	3·51	3·25	2·52
1936	3·29	3·09	3·29	3·29	2·78

Fruits.—The area under fruits increased, particularly on Singapore Island and in Malacca, and greater attention was given to the selection of good stock for planting. The range of fruits cultivated is extensive and includes mangosteens, pulasans, rambutans, bananas, durians, papaya, chikus, belimbings and langsats. Usually individual holdings are small, but there are a number of extensive fruit orchards owned by Chinese in Penang Island and Malacca. Local supplies of fruit are insufficient to satisfy the demand and large quantities of fruits are imported.

Apart from pineapples, it is estimated that there are 9,048 acres planted with fruit trees in the Colony.

The fruit season generally was poor in all parts of the country. In Singapore, poor crops of durians, rambutans, mangosteen and pulasan were harvested in the main season in June and further poor crops in the secondary season during November. As a result of this shortage prices of Penang rambutans and Johore durians were very high. Small off-season crops of durian, rambutan, mangosteen and langsats were harvested in Penang during January and obtained good prices; although the main season was poor, a few rambutan orchards gave heavy yields. Malacca dukus are famed throughout the country; in 1936 they failed to fruit.

Vegetables.—Market gardens cultivated by Chinese are found near all centres of population. It is estimated that there are over 3,000 acres on Singapore Island, and almost as much in Malacca, the total area in the Colony being 6,249 acres. The quantity of vegetables produced is unknown, but certainly exceeds 10,000 tons during the year.

Tobacco.—The cultivation of tobacco is of importance, especially to the Chinese market gardeners. The planted area at the end of 1936 was 448 acres. The area decreased in Singapore owing to the difficulty of obtaining fresh land suitable for the crop. Malacca has 322 acres, and a further increase in area is anticipated as prices are good. There are three Chinese factories in Malacca working at full capacity making cigars, cheroots and cut tobacco. Local sales are good and there is a large export to Singapore and Penang. Production in Penang is steady, most of the leaf being used locally for cigar wrappers. The leaf from Province Wellesley Central, however, is used as a filler for cigars.

No high-grade or “bright” tobacco is produced in Malaya, the present production being confined to supplying the local demand for a very cheap smoke.

Derris (Tuba Root).—The cultivation of derris occupied an increasingly important position on Singapore Island during 1936. The area extended

from 750 acres in 1935 to 1350 acres in 1936. Malayan production, as judged by exports, was nearly 600 tons valued at nearly \$500,000.

The investigations of the Department of Agriculture have made this product well known in other countries and there has been a steady demand for supplies of selected planting material.

The average price of the dried root was \$48.58 per picul when sold on the basis of rotenone content and \$31.54 when sold on the ether extract basis. These prices were of the same order as those ruling in the previous year. Higher prices were paid for dried root of Changi (Singapore) being \$85 per picul for selected root and \$75 for the mixed quality.

Cloves.—Cloves are cultivated by Chinese in the Settlement of Penang, where there are 367 acres. Harvesting of the 1935–36 crop was completed in February and was up to average in quality for the early plucking, and high in quality towards the end of the season. A small off-season crop was collected in August, but the prospects of the next crop are said to be poor.

(iii).—LIVESTOCK

The Colony, unfortunately, depends largely on foreign sources for its supply of livestock for slaughter, and for its requirements in the way of animal products, such as milk, butter, eggs and so forth. An endeavour, however, is being made to increase the proportion obtained from local sources and the neighbouring Malay States.

In Malacca two new areas have been set aside for buffalo grazing, and legislation has been introduced prohibiting the slaughter of female buffalo. Livestock shows have been introduced to impress upon the farmers the value of their animals.

Province Wellesley and Malacca can now easily supply all their own requirements in swine and both Settlements even supply a few pigs to abattoirs in neighbouring States. The production of goats is still far below requirements but is improving.

The Municipal Abattoirs (in Singapore and Penang) provide a very essential and efficient service, the animals being humanely handled and only meat fit for human consumption passed. Unfortunately, however, in all Settlements there are private slaughter houses over which there is little or no supervision.

Dairies are principally owned and run by Northern Indians. The type of dairy animal used is frequently unsatisfactory, and the conditions under which the milk is produced and distributed leave a great deal to be desired. In Singapore, however, there are two dairy farms, the Singapore Dairy Farm and Malayan Farms Ltd., both under European management, which supply first-class produce. At the two farms upwards of 200 imported European cows are milked and at the same time numbers of dry cows, bulls, and calves are kept. All fresh fodder is produced on the farms and other foods are imported from Europe, Australia and the United States of America. Altogether there are about 60 acres of land in grass yielding on an average 28 tons per acre of cut grass. The dairy cattle include Ayrshire, Guernsey, Jersey, Illawarras and Friesians. At one farm the milking is done by hand, and at the other, by machine. All operations are under the closest European supervision and the milk produced is of high quality and meets all requirements of the health authorities.

Poultry farming in all Settlements is carried out more or less haphazardly as a side-line to other occupations. The local production of poultry and eggs for food is on a far greater scale than is commonly realized,

but there is reason to believe that so long as poultry and eggs can be easily imported, the local production will remain more or less stationary.

The outbreak of Goat Pox in Province Wellesley that started in 1935 was finally stamped out early in the year. No other serious mammalian diseases occurred in 1936 but several outbreaks of poultry disease were reported and dealt with.

The following table gives the census of livestock in Singapore, Penang and Province Wellesley, and Malacca :—

	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Buffaloes</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Goats</i>	<i>Swine</i>
Singapore	4,196	777	3,000	3,461	127,468
Penang and P. Wellesley	9,419	5,983	—	12,682	48,179
Malacca	6,047	12,073	67	16,683	24,742
Total ...	19,662	18,833	3,067	32,826	200,389

The following table gives the imports and exports of livestock during the year :—

IMPORTS OF LIVESTOCK					
	<i>Oxen</i>	<i>Buffaloes</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Goats</i>	<i>Swine</i>
Singapore ...	15,640	—	44,222	2,969	123,025
Penang ...	2,175	1,542	9,223	5,082	929
Malacca ...	242	13	318	19	576
Total ...	18,057	1,555	53,763	8,070	124,530

EXPORTS OF LIVESTOCK					
	<i>Oxen</i>	<i>Buffaloes</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Goats</i>	<i>Swine</i>
Singapore ...	1,914	—	4,957	153	3,194
Penang ...	36	40	1,810	838	940
Malacca ...	211	227	—	151	1,655
Total ...	2,161	267	6,767	1,142	5,789

(iv).—AGRICULTURAL INSTRUCTION

The School of Agriculture, Malaya, situated at Serdang, and supported jointly by the Federated Malay States and the Straits Settlements Governments continued to operate very successfully. The school year opened in May, 1936, with a full complement of 80 boys. Of the forty-six students who left school in April thirty-four have obtained employment either in the Government service, the Rubber Research Institute of Malaya or in private companies. Training at the school followed the same lines as in previous years.

Three major and three minor scholarships tenable for two years and one year respectively were again awarded this year. The major scholarships were all gained by Chinese and the minor scholarships by Malays. The Edwin Phillip Scholarship, for which there were seven candidates was won by a Straits Chinese.

The Farm School situated at Sungei Udang Agricultural Station, Malacca, completed the first year of operation in November. Twenty-two boys entered for the final examination. The new school year opened on December 21st with a full complement of twenty-five boys, ten of whom

received a scholarship which entitles them to free tuition. The course has been divided into two terms instead of three, as for various reasons this appeared to be more suitable.

During the year 137 schools maintained gardens. These were periodically inspected by Asiatic Officers of the Department and assistance was given by both Asiatic and Agricultural Officers in judging and awarding the annual prizes or shields provided for the purpose.

The Rural Lecture Caravan made tours in the Settlements of Penang and Malacca during the year.

The Thirteenth Annual Malayan Exhibition was held in Kuala Lumpur from August 1st to 3rd and Agricultural Shows were held at Bukit Mertajam, and Sungei Bakap in Province Wellesley and at Alor Gajah and Jasin in Malacca. An exhibition of agricultural products was again arranged for a tourist ship which called at Malacca during March.

(v).—METHODS AND CONDITIONS OF RECRUITING SOUTH INDIAN LABOUR

The elaborate machinery which exists for the recruitment, in normal times, of South Indian labourers, required for work on rubber, coconut and oil-palm estates, is utilised also to supply labour required for the Railways, the Municipalities and such Government Departments as the Public Works Department.

The recruiting of labourers in South India is conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Emigration Act, 1922, and the Rules made thereunder. There are special provisions in the Indian Act for the recruitment of labourers for skilled work, but the recruiting of skilled labourers in British India for work in Malaya is practically non-existent.

The basis of the system of recruiting unskilled South Indian labourers is the Indian Immigration Fund. This Fund is maintained by contributions from all employers of South Indian labourers including the several Governments of Malaya. It forms no part of the general revenue of the Government and may be spent only for the purpose of assisting immigration or on measures designed for the welfare and protection of South Indian labourers, such as the maintenance of "choultries" (free lodging houses) and a home for decrepit Indian labourers, the repatriation of labourers to India and the assistance of those in need of relief. During the lean years from 1930 to 1933 the resources of the Fund were extensively used for the repatriation of labourers wishing to return to India.

From the Fund are paid the general expenses of recruiting, the principal items being (a) cost of the train fares of recruited emigrants from their homes to the Depôts at Negapatam and Avadi, (b) care and feeding of all assisted emigrants in the Emigration Depôts at Negapatam and Avadi while awaiting shipment, (c) steamer passages (from Madras or Negapatam) to the Straits, (d) expenses of quarantine on arrival at Penang and Port Swettenham, (e) transport from ports of disembarkation to places of employment in Malaya and (f) payment of recruiting allowances to employers by whose agents the emigrants have been recruited.

Recruiting agents, known as kanganies, are sent over by individual employers to recruit for their particular places of employment and receive remuneration in the form of commission from these employers. A "recruiting allowance" is paid to the employer in re-imbursement of this expenditure and other incidental costs not met from the Fund.

The kangany or agent who recruits must fulfil the following conditions before he can obtain a licence :—

- (i) he must be a South Indian of the labouring classes.
- (ii) he must have been employed as a labourer for a period of not less than three months on the place of employment for which he intends to recruit.

Licences are issued by the Deputy Controller of Labour in Penang and are endorsed by the Agent of the Government of India. The number of labourers each kangany is authorised to recruit is limited in the first instance to twenty and the maximum commission is limited to Rs. 10 for each labourer recruited.

On arrival in India the kangany takes his licence for registration to the Malayan Emigration Commissioner in Madras, an officer of the Malayan Civil Service appointed by the Malayan Governments with the approval of the Government of India, to supervise emigration to Malaya, or to the Assistant Emigration Commissioner in Negapatam. Only on endorsement by one of these officials does the licence become valid. The period of currency of the licence is usually six months and is limited, in any case, to one year.

After registration of his licence the kangany proceeds to the office of his employer's financial agents, where he obtains a small advance (usually about Rs. 20) before leaving for his own village to inform his friends and relations of the conditions of labour on his estate.

When the kangany finds people willing to emigrate he must supply them with a copy of the official pamphlet giving information about Malaya and must obtain their receipt for it. He must then produce them before the Village Headman whose duty it is to satisfy himself that there is no valid objection to their emigration. If so satisfied, the Village Headman initials the entry of the intending emigrant's name on the back of the licence. When the kangany has collected a number of intending emigrants and obtained the necessary authorisation from the Village Headman, he takes them to the Emigration Dépôt at or near the port of embarkation, *i.e.*, Avadi or Negapatam, either himself prepaying the train fare, which he afterwards recovers, or getting the fares paid by one of the Recruiting Inspectors or Agents employed at the charge of the Fund. These two dépôts are maintained by the Fund and intending emigrants are housed and fed in them, free of charge, until they embark for Malaya.

Before they are permitted to embark all emigrants are inspected by the officials of the Indian Government the Protector of Emigrants and the Medical Inspector.

After the emigrants are shipped the kangany receives his commission, less the amount of his advance from the financial agents unless he is himself returning to the Colony in which case he is paid the balance due to him on arrival at the estate.

The commission of Rs. 10 is sufficient to cover all legitimate charge and is purposely kept low to prevent the kangany from dealing with professional recruiters.

The recruiting allowance which the employer receives from the Fund has varied from \$3 to \$20 and is at present fixed at \$10 for every female recruit or male recruit accompanied by his wife and \$8 for every male recruit not accompanied by his wife. The amount of the allowance now fixed is designed to cover all legitimate out-of-pocket expenses leaving a margin just sufficient to induce employers to recruit up to their requirements.

Assisted emigration however is not confined to labourers recruited by kanganies for individual employers. An agricultural labourer who is physically fit can, on application to the Emigration Commissioner or his Assistant and on production, where necessary, of a certificate from his Village Headman, obtain a free passage to Malaya at the expense of the Fund, without incurring any obligation to labour for any particular employer on arrival.

The number of these non-recruited emigrants has been steadily increasing during recent years. They are usually labourers who have been in Malaya before and are returning to their old places of employment. As they are not recruited, neither kangany's commission nor recruiting allowance is payable on their account, but each receives a gift of \$2 and a free railway ticket to his destination on discharge from the immigration depôts in Malaya. This gift of \$2 is made to ensure that each labourer will not suffer from lack of food while seeking employment.

Assisted immigration from India was suspended in August 1930, but was resumed in May, 1934, since when recruiting licences have been issued only in a limited number of special cases, the great majority of assisted emigrants to Malaya being non-recruited labourers.

The Controller of Labour, Malaya, as *ex officio* Chairman of the Indian Immigration Committee which is partly composed of unofficials, administers the Indian Immigration Fund.

All labourers, whether recruited by kanganies or non-recruited, are landed in Malaya free of debt and any labourer may terminate his agreement with his employer by giving one month's notice of his intention to do so. There is no "contract" or indentured labour in the Colony.

There were 77 European-owned, and 263 Asiatic-owned estates in the Colony, employing 13,263 and 1,655 South Indian labourers respectively, on the 31st December, 1936.

B.—FORESTRY

No change was made in the organization of the department, the forests of Singapore remaining in charge of the Commissioner of Lands, whilst Malacca and the Northern Settlement were generally supervised by the State Forest Officers, Negri Sembilan and Perak North respectively. Full time executive control was exercised by the Forest Officer, Singapore, in connection with the saw-milling industry and by the Assistant Conservator at Jasin who is responsible for the forests of Malacca. Penang and Province Wellesley do not justify the full time services of a senior executive officer and are included in the territorial charge of the District Forest Officer, Matang (Perak).

Malayan exports of sawn timber and sleepers rose slightly in value from \$469,462 to \$482,102 of which \$197,807 went to British territories and \$284,295 to foreign countries. These figures suggest that the milling industry remained more or less stationary, but actually there was a large increase in turn over due to improved general conditions. Exports of graded timber to the United Kingdom showed satisfactory increases during the first half of the year, but in the second half they fell off badly, largely because of an increase in the ocean freight rates which placed Malayan timbers in a less favourable position *vis a vis* their rivals from Borneo and Philippine Islands. It is hoped that this difficulty will be overcome, for the export of graded material, though small in itself, has vastly improved the general standard of manufacture and opened the eyes of the millers and

consumers to the possibilities of local timbers. The total shipments to the United Kingdom alone rose from 19,707 to 25,230 cubic feet.

Imports of logs for sawing in the Singapore mills totalled 132,661 cubic feet against 129,353 in 1935. The proportion from the peninsula fell from 32 to 25 per cent., the actual figures being 32,957 cubic tons in 1936 and 41,286 in 1935.

A notable achievement was the supply of just under 34,000 cubic feet of blocks valued at nearly \$84,000 for use in the new graving dock. Only local timbers were used and it can safely be said that, but for the Singapore forest organization, this order would have been placed outside the country at very much higher cost and corresponding loss to the Settlement. The Public Works Department now maintains a stock of sawn timber which is purchased regularly through the agency of the Forest Officer and properly seasoned before use. Altogether 120,233 cubic feet of timber were inspected by the Singapore forest staff during the year.

After further examination it was decided that the forests of Malacca are not yet ready for the establishment of the sawmill foreshadowed in last year's report and the project has been postponed in favour of a mill in a Negri Sembilan reserve, which will be conveniently situated for supplying the Settlement for some years to come.

The forest reserves of the Straits Settlements at present occupy 127 square miles or approximately 10 per cent. of the total land area. The Singapore reserves will shortly be revoked with the exception of certain small areas and the Bukit Timah reserve, which will be retained for the purposes of amenity and natural history.

Revenue increased from \$34,595 in 1935, to \$36,820 in 1936, the corresponding expenditure falling from \$74,358 to \$72,251.

The Federated Malay States organizations for forest research and education, forest engineering and marketing also serve the needs of the Colony. The main research organization deals with forest botany, oecology, silviculture, wood technology, timber testing and investigation of forest products generally, and a school for training forest subordinates is attached to it. The Forest Engineer is concerned with the improvement of methods of extraction, conversion and transport of timber and other forest produce. The Timber Purchase Section serves as an agency for direct purchases of timber on behalf of government departments, but with the appointment of a forest officer in Singapore it has been possible to put an increasing number of purchasers in direct touch with the mills and to simplify to some extent the transactions involved.

C.—FISHERIES

The supply of fresh fish for the Singapore market is mainly in the hands of Japanese fishermen who land approximately 50 per cent. of the supplies, while another 30 per cent. is taken in the waters of the Rhio Archipelago and imported on ice by local dealers. This dependence on foreign supplies cannot be regarded as altogether satisfactory. In order, therefore, to encourage the local fishing industry, an experimental vessel 85 feet long and 15 feet in beam, with Diesel engine and equipped with refrigeration plant, was purchased and fitted out in November, 1936. The purpose of this vessel is to work in conjunction with the local fishing fleets, to purchase their catches and convey them in a fresh form to the markets in the bigger towns. It is hoped that by demonstrating the utility of the vessel private enterprise will be induced to invest in similar vessels operating all round the coast of Malaya.

Before the end of the year the vessel had made two voyages to the important fishing grounds off Pangkor Island, Dindings. The fish selected for storage in the refrigerator was Kembong (Scomber), one of the most delicate and perishable of all our local fishes. Five and three quarter tons were purchased from the Chinese fishermen operating in the locality mentioned, stored in the refrigerator and brought down to the Singapore market for sale. The results of this vessel's work were on the whole very encouraging, the fish being well received by the public and commanding a fair price; but it is too early yet to say if the scheme is likely to achieve its purpose.

The experimental work in connection with methods of preservation of fish was continued. Much of the fish caught on the rich grounds off the East Coast is dried and salted. It is thus converted into a mere condiment of no value as an article of diet. With a view to altering this state of affairs, an experimental canning station has been erected near Kuantan in Pahang. Unfortunately, during 1936 the station could not be utilised to its full capacity, partly owing to staff difficulties, and partly owing to bad fishing weather which reduced the supplies of fish. Nevertheless, a thousand tins of Kembong and Selayang (Caranx) were successfully packed. These fish pack well and are a remarkably good food. The success of this station will be of much importance for the local fishing industry.

Experiments were also carried out on the artificial drying of fish as an alternative to the insanitary method of sun drying which is so common throughout the country. Certain fish dealers were invited to import wet and even maggoted fish for treatment in a drier and did so. The results were not convincing but an improved drier was later constructed which was more satisfactory. Efforts will be continued to encourage this method of drying which is definitely to the advantage of dealers and tends to reduce waste. A considerable amount of work has been done in connection with fresh water fisheries, the most interesting being an attempt to establish fish cultivation by Malays in a lake at Chin Chin, Malacca, on co-operative lines. They have been assisted in the preliminary labour of clearing the stumps from the lake to enable them to work nets and in stocking the lake with various kinds of fresh water food fishes. The scheme is very promising. Not only have the fish increased in size and numbers at an encouraging rate but the co-operators have themselves about \$200 which will serve as capital for the scheme when they take full charge of it. Fishing is being deferred, except for predatory fishes, until the end of the current year in order to ensure a good stock of fish.

The Government of the Colony makes a contribution to the cost of stocking the Cameron Highlands rivers with trout. The fish, which were liberated in 1935, are reported to be doing well and were increased by a further supply of 8,000 young trout of approximately four inches in length. Some of the original stock has moved a little down-stream to deeper pools and fish of approximately a pound in weight may be seen at dusk in some of them. Some have actually been reported as caught on the fly but these efforts were wholly experimental and angling for them is not yet open. The hatchery stock have matured and look like spawning some time in the early part of 1937.

Revenue in 1936 amounted to \$11,399 which shows a decrease of \$974 from the figures for 1935.

There were 12,348 fishermen employed of which 6,306 were Malays, 3,980 Chinese, 1,752 Japanese and 262 Indians.

The following statement shows the quantity of fresh fish landed in the Colony during the year 1936 :—

Penang and Province Wellesley	...	9,315 tons
Malacca	... ..	2,476 tons
Singapore	... ..	12,930 tons
Labuan	... ..	142 tons
Total		24,863 tons

D.—MINERALS

Mining operations in the Colony are confined to the Settlement of Malacca, where tin is mined and to Christmas Island, where deposits of phosphate of lime are worked by the Christmas Island Phosphate Company. There are coal deposits in Labuan but these are not at present being worked. On the 1st April, 1934, the tin mines of Malacca were brought formally within the scope of the International Tin-Restriction Scheme by the coming into operation of Ordinance No. 10 of 1934. By agreement with the Government of the Federated Malay States a fixed exportable allowance not exceeding 58·00 tons of tin per annum was allocated to the Settlement. This figure represents 1,291 pikuls of tin-ore, and the actual production during 1936 was 1285·16 pikuls. At the end of the year there were only five producers. Royalty amounting to \$9,411 was paid.

The smelting of tin at Singapore and Penang is one of the principal industries of the Straits Settlements. The year's production, as declared by tin smelters, amounted to 84,716 tons, as compared with 61,923 tons in 1935, an increase of 36·8 per cent.

Imports into Singapore and Penang of tin-in-ore, (assessed as 75·5 per cent. by weight of ore imported) from countries outside Malaya amounted to 20,338 tons as compared with 16,634 tons in 1935 and from the Malay States and Malacca to 66,806 tons as compared with 42,327 tons in 1935, a total of 87,144 tons as compared with 58,961 tons in the previous year. Exports of smelted tin amounted to 83,492 tons. The price of tin was £217 a ton at the beginning and £233 a ton at the end of the year. The highest and lowest prices during the year were £244 and £176, and the annual average was £204. The average price in 1935 was £225.

The production of phosphates of lime, as shown by exports from Christmas Island was 161,440 tons. Of this, 124,550 tons were exported to Japan, 11,825 tons to Sweden, 5,600 tons to Netherlands, 5,550 tons to Germany, 5,200 tons to the Union of South Africa, 2,300 tons to Java, 50 tons to British India and 6,365 tons to Singapore and Port Swettenham. The labour force consisted of Chinese recruited in Singapore for work on the Island.

CHAPTER VII

Commerce

The foreign (external) trade of Malaya, representing the Colony of the Straits Settlements, the Federated and the Unfederated Malay States, in merchandise, bullion and specie and parcel post, amounted in value to \$1,152 (£134) millions, as compared with \$1,063 (£124) millions, in 1935, an increase of 8·4 per cent. Imports increased by \$34 millions or 7·1 per cent. and exports by \$55 millions or 9·4 per cent. The increase in both imports and exports was spread over the majority of the principal products, the largest increases being in the imports of rubber, liquid fuel, copra, tin

ore, rice, kerosene, other manufactures of iron or steel unenumerated and tin-plates, and in the exports of rubber, tin, cocoanut oil, kerosene, liquid fuel, copra, arecanuts, palm oil and sago flour. There were as a counterpoise, decreases in the imports of motor spirit, pepper, opium, motor cars, locomotives, swine and illipinuts, and a decline was also noted in the exports of motor spirit, pepper, gunnies and cotton piece goods. Exports of rubber increased by \$44,221,000 in value, and tin by \$24,059,000, due to the increased market values of these commodities, and on the whole a general improvement was noticeable both in the entrepot trade and the trade in domestic products.

Although the trade of the Straits Settlements, as distinct from Malaya, is not recorded separately, it can be assumed that Singapore and Penang handle the greater part of Malaya's trade and the large transshipment traffic, which comprises so valuable a part of Malayan commerce, passes almost entirely through these ports, being the nodal points for the collection, grading and distribution of goods for the whole of Malaysia, especially the neighbouring territories of the Netherlands Indies. At the same time, it must be remembered that the previous overwhelming proportion of entrepot trade has had to give way before the growth of trading self-consciousness of other countries, but still by no means everything that passes over the wharves or on the lighters in these two ports is of British Malayan origin or for a British Malayan destination. The \$1,152 millions of external trade consisted of \$513 millions of imports and \$639 millions of exports, the corresponding figures for 1935 being respectively \$479 millions and \$584 millions. The value of bunker coal, oil fuel and stores taken on board ships and aircraft on foreign trade routes for their own consumption amounted to \$11 millions and if this is added to the excess of exports there was a favourable trade balance of \$137 millions, as compared with a favourable balance on the same basis of \$117 millions in 1935.

As pointed out in previous reports, a certain amount of caution must be exercised in the use of statistics for measuring Malayan trade owing to the fact that the declared trade values for Malaya, and for the Colony, include a considerable portion of import and export of mineral oils. By virtue of its geographical position and proximity to the oil fields, Singapore is a natural storage and distributing centre for this commodity, and distribution is effected as far as Africa on one side and Australia on the other. To give an idea of the value of mineral oils imported and exported during the year 1936 and their relationship in value to the gross trade of Malaya, a glance at the following table is suggested:—

TRADE MINERAL OILS, 1936

VALUE IN \$'000

			<i>Imports</i>	<i>Exports</i>	<i>Total</i>
Lubricating Oil	...	...	1,908	413	2,321
Kerosene	...	...	14,067	10,376	24,443
Liquid Fuel	...	...	17,078	5,694	22,772
Motor Spirit	...	...	36,777	27,451	64,228
A.—Total	...	...	69,830	43,934	113,764
B.—Malaya	...	...	513,000	639,000	1,152,000
C.—Percentage A and B	...	...	14	7	10

Of the \$1,152 millions, representing the external trade of Malaya, \$981 millions or 85 per cent. comprise the direct foreign trade of the Straits Settlements. The value of imports was \$465 millions and of exports \$516 millions. The figures indicate an increase in gross Colony trade and in the proportion of Malaya trade carried by Colony merchants, since 1935 when the Colony's \$435 millions of imports and \$474 millions of exports amounted to 86 per cent. of Malaya's external trade.

The percentage of Malayan trade with the United Kingdom, and the same can be said of that of the Colony, decreased from 15.9 to 11.6 but with British Possessions it increased from 15.4 to 15.7; there was, therefore, a net decrease with all British countries of 4.0 per cent.

The following is a table of the trade values geographically apportioned :—

	<i>Imports</i>	<i>Exports</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>\$ in millions</i>		
1. United Kingdom ...	77	56	133
2. British Possessions ...	85	95	180
3. Continent of Europe ...	24	76	100
4. United States of America ...	9	296	305
5. Japan ...	33	48	81
6. Netherlands Indies ...	161	39	200
7. Siam ...	79	13	92
8. Other Countries ...	40	14	54
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	508	637	1,145
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Parcel Post, all countries ...	5	2	7
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total from Trade ...	513	639	1,152
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Favourable Balance ...	126	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	639	639	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Detailed information regarding the trade of Malaya is contained in the regular periodical publications of the Department of Statistics.

Regulation of imports for Malayan consumption of cotton and rayon piece-goods manufactured in foreign countries by means of a quota system brought into force by the Importation of Textile (Quotas) Ordinance in 1934 remained throughout the year. The continued operation of the tin and rubber control schemes, as well as the textile (quotas) system did not hamper, on the whole, the Colony's tradition of free trade. Sanctions imposed against Italy under the Covenant of the League of Nations were raised in July and trade with Italy in due time resumed its normal course. Apart from excise duties on liquors, tobacco and petroleum imposed solely for revenue purposes, there are no import duties in the Straits Settlements, and commerce and passenger traffic flow with a freedom that in these days is remarkable.

CHAPTER VIII

Wages and the Cost of Living

A.—WAGES

Standard rates of wages for Southern Indian labourers are prescribed by law in certain key districts in Malaya and these rates tend in practice to regulate the rates of wages earned in other districts either by Southern Indians or by labourers of other races. There was no change in standard rates during the year.

In the Colony, the only key district in which standard wages were in force was Province Wellesley where the prescribed rates were 40 cents a day for an able-bodied adult male labourer, 32 cents for an able-bodied adult female, and 16 cents for children of 10 years and over. No Indian child under 10 years of age may be allowed to work.

In Penang the average retail price of Rangoon No. 1 Rice which is the variety most commonly used by South Indian labourers in Malaya showed the usual seasonal decline, from 25 cents a gantang (8 lbs.) at the end of 1935 to 22 cents in April at which figure it remained constant until the middle of December, 1936, when it rose to 26 cents. In Malacca the price declined from 24 cents in January, 1936, to 21 cents in March, rising towards the end of the year to 24 cents. In Singapore the price declined from 26 cents in January to 23 cents in August, rising in the end of December to 26 cents. Estate Managers buy rice wholesale and retail it without profit to their labourers and the prices on Estates of Rangoon Rice were therefore lower than the figures given above. The price of No. 2 Siam rice which is the staple food of Chinese labour decreased from 34 cents a gantang in January to 24 cents in October but increased again to 28 cents in December.

The average of the monthly standard budget of a South Indian labourer showed decreases in each Settlement for 1936 as compared with 1935, Penang's fall being 0·8%, Malacca's about 8·3% and Singapore's about 2·4%, but the figures for the end of December, 1936, were about the same as at the end of December, 1935.

In the Settlement of Penang, daily rates for South Indian Agricultural labourers ranged from 40 to 68 cents a day for a male adult and from 32 to 40 cents a day for a female adult while children received from 16 to 35 cents a day. Normal rates for adults were about 40 cents for a male and 32 cents for a female.

In Singapore the daily earnings of South Indian labourers on estates ranged from 40 to 50 cents a day for adult males, from 32 to 40 cents a day for adult females and from 20 to 25 cents a day for children, the great majority of tappers being paid by results (4 to 6½ cents a lb. of rubber). Chinese tappers were paid by results, at varying rates higher however than those given to Indians or Javanese. In Government Departments and under public bodies the minimum rate for unskilled South Indian adult males was 40 cents a day, the range being from 47 to 96 cents a day, the normal being about 50 cents a day.

In Malacca on estates adult South Indian males earned 35 to 50 cents a day, adult females 28 to 40 cents a day and children 16 to 20 cents a day, the lower rates being found on some Asiatic properties in the first quarter of 1936. The higher rates were paid to store and factory workers. Chinese tappers worked at rates of 7½ to 8 cents a kati of rubber.

In Government Departments the rates ranged from 40 to 90 cents a day for adult unskilled males, 40 to 50 cents a day being normal.

The figures given above do not refer to skilled labour which commanded higher rates. Earnings of Javanese on estates were about the same as those of South Indians.

In Province Wellesley the labour forces are very settled, for on the older properties where South Indian labour has been employed for many years, the majority are locally born and the same position is being gradually attained in Malacca. Many of the estate labourers in Province Wellesley are not entirely dependent on their check roll wages, and the same position is frequently met with in Penang and is growing more common in Singapore.

Every employer is bound by law to provide at least 24 days' work in every month to each male or female labourer employed by him. There is no indentured labour in the Colony.

The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance (*Chapter 70*) is administered by a Commissioner in each centre (Singapore, Malacca, Penang and Province Wellesley) who is assisted by the Labour Department. Health and Labour Departments are invested with powers under the Labour Ordinance, to enforce proper conditions of health and work and protection from machinery is secured under the Machinery Ordinance. For further particulars, reference is invited to the Blue Book, Section 23.

B.—AVERAGE PRICES AND THE COST OF LIVING

For average prices, declared trade values, exchange, currency and cost of living, reference is invited to the separate report on this subject (No. S. 4) published annually by the Statistics Department. The average weighted index of commodity prices in Singapore, represented by 17 principal commodities (15 wholesale and 2 retail) increased by 14.1 per cent. as compared with 1935, due principally to increases in the prices of rubber, copra, tapioca and coconut oil. There were increases also in the prices of sago flour, arecanuts, palm oil and damar. The prices of tin, pepper, pineapples, rattans, coffee, rice and gambier declined. The price of tin was £217 per ton at the beginning and £233 at the end of the year, the highest and lowest prices being £244 and £176, respectively. The price of rubber was 6½ pence per lb. at the beginning and 10⅝ pence at the end of the year, the highest and lowest being 11⅛ pence and 6½ pence, respectively. The following index numbers show changes in commodity values during the last five years:—

1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
37	45	63	64	73

The tendency for retail values was to decline, as shown by a decrease of 3.2 per cent. in the index of food prices, representing the mean of differences of the average of the two years in Singapore, Penang and Malacca.

Municipal assessment values increased by 1.5 per cent. in Singapore and 0.1 per cent. in Penang, but declined by 2.2 per cent. in Malacca as compared with those of 1935.

There was a general but small decrease in the cost of living for all communities and the index numbers for the Asiatic, Eurasian and European standards given below show that costs in respect of all three standards

though slightly lower when compared with 1935 are still higher than in 1914.

Standard	1914	1935	1936	Percentage increase + or decrease — in 1936 as compared with 1935
Asiatic ...	100	108·1	106·0	— 1·9
Eurasian ...	100	109·0	107·8	— 1·1
European ...	100	124·7	124·0	— 0·6

CHAPTER IX

Education and Welfare Institutions

A.—GENERAL

Educational facilities are provided in English, Malay, Chinese and Tamil.

Schools are either Government, Aided by Government, or Private.

All schools, (other than those in which the teaching is of an exclusively religious nature) in which fifteen or more persons are habitually taught in one or more classes, and all supervisors, committees of management and teachers of schools, must be registered in accordance with the Registration of Schools Ordinance (*Chapter 139*). To be a supervisor, a member of the committee of management or a teacher in an unregistered school is an offence against the Ordinance. Under the Ordinance the Director of Education may refuse to register any school that is insanitary or that is likely to be used for the purpose of propaganda detrimental to the interests of the pupils or as a meeting place of an unlawful society. The Director of Education may also, in certain circumstances, refuse to register a person as a supervisor, a member of a committee of management or a teacher. The Director of Education, however, interferes as little and as seldom as possible.

There was constituted in 1909 an Education Board, composed of four official and four unofficial members, with the following functions:—

- (i) to determine the amount of fees to be charged in Government schools, and to receive all such fees;
- (ii) to submit to Government the Annual Estimates for educational purposes and to make recommendations thereon;
- (iii) to advise the Government as to the purpose for which moneys devoted to education should be expended and upon any matters connected with education which may from time to time be referred to it by the Governor.

This Board receives, in addition to the school fees, the proceeds of an education rate of 2 per cent. on property in municipalities and 1 per cent. on property in rural areas.

The reprinting of Education Codes was undertaken during the year and the following revised editions were issued:—

- Part I. General Regulations for Government and Aided English Schools in the S.S. and F.M.S.
- „ II. Regulations for Aided English Schools in the Straits Settlements.

Part III. Suggestions for Inspectors, Principals and Staffs of English Schools in the S.S. and F.M.S.

„ IV. A List of Scholarships in the S.S. together with Rules for the Remission of Fees.

„ VII. General Regulations for Indian Vernacular Schools in the S.S. and F.M.S.

The following Education Codes were in print at the close of the year :—

Part V. Regulations for Malay Vernacular Education in the S.S. and F.M.S.

„ VI. Regulations for Chinese Vernacular Schools in the S.S. and F.M.S.

B.—ENGLISH EDUCATION

The “English Schools” are those in which English is the medium of instruction. Less than half of the pupils come from English-speaking homes. The lowest class may be composed of children speaking between them some seven or eight different languages or dialects, those speaking one language or dialect being generally quite unable to understand those speaking any of the others. In the circumstances the use of the “Direct Method” of teaching English is practically obligatory. Children are accepted into the lowest class at the age of six or seven and are given an education which ends as a rule with their presentation at the Cambridge School Certificate Examination, though a few stay on to enter for the Queen’s Scholarship Examination.

The fees for pupils enrolled before the 1st January, 1934, are \$30 (£3 10s.) a year for boys and \$24 (£2 16s.) a year for girls for the first six years (*i.e.* for the years spent in the two Primary Classes and in Standards I to IV inclusive) and \$48 (£5 12s.) a year for boys and \$36 (£4 4s.) a year for girls for the remaining period. The rates for boys and girls enrolled on or after the 1st January, 1934, are \$36 (£4 4s.) a year for the first eight years (*i.e.* up to and including Standard VI) and thereafter \$72 (£8 8s.) or \$108 (£12 12s.) a year, according to the results of an examination, the successful pupils up to 50% of the available places paying the lower fee and the remainder paying the higher one.

There is no compulsory education.

In 1936 there were 24 Government and 33 Aided English Schools in the Colony, 28 in Singapore, 20 in Penang, 8 in Malacca and 1 in Labuan.

The average enrolment was 24,888 (9,356 in Government and 15,532 in Aided Schools), 366 less than last year.

Of the 24,888 pupils in English Schools, 18,354 were receiving elementary education (*i.e.* up to and including Standard V) and 6,534 secondary education (*i.e.* above Standard V).

One thousand eight hundred and sixty-one (or 10·14%) of those receiving elementary education and 1,439 (or 22%) of those receiving secondary education were enjoying free education. Of these free scholars 656 were Europeans and Eurasians, 965 Malays, 1,403 Chinese and 234 Indians, while 42 belonged to other races.

The Aided English Schools are managed by various missionary bodies—the Christian Brothers, the Methodist Episcopal Mission, the Church of

England, the Portuguese Catholic Church, and the Sisters of the Holy Infant Jesus.

The Government pays to such schools monthly grants equal to the difference between their revenue and approved expenditure. The approved expenditure includes Government rates of pay for the lay staff, rates and taxes on school premises, the cost of minor repairs and equipment, and salaries in respect of European Missionary teachers at the rate of \$3,000 (£350) a year for men missionaries and \$1,800 (£210) a year for women missionaries. Allowances at these rates, however, are payable only to 16 per cent. of the total authorised staff in boys' schools and 25 per cent. of that in girls' schools. The other missionary teachers, European and Asiatic, are paid at the rate of \$1,440 (£168) a year for men and \$1,200 (£140) a year for women. In Christian Brothers' Schools and Convent Schools no distinction is made between European and Asiatic missionary teachers who are all paid at a flat rate of \$2,400 (£280) a year for men and \$1,500 (£175) a year for women. Under certain conditions capital grants amounting to half the cost of approved new buildings are also paid by the Government.

The Government Afternoon Schools in Singapore continued the useful work that they have carried out since their initiation in 1930. These schools accommodate pupils who are unable to gain admission to Government or Aided morning schools: some, but by no means all, of the pupils are over-age for the morning schools. The afternoon schools are staffed by qualified and trained teachers for whom employment cannot be found in the regular Government or Aided schools. Co-operation and liaison with the morning schools continued and promising boys in the afternoon schools were drafted into the morning schools as opportunity occurred. In one of the schools special attention was paid to manual work of value to the over-age boys unsuited to literary studies. Two of the schools had sports and parents' days and school exhibitions of work. The enrolment of the afternoon schools in 1936 was 879 as compared with 844 in 1935. The total expenditure was \$34,567 and the total revenue \$30,258.

The private English schools may be divided into two main classes:—

- (a) those controlled by religious bodies as educational and not commercial undertakings;
- (b) those carried on by individuals for profit: many of these are accommodated in any sort of building—shop-house, private house, office or godown.

Among the 52 private English schools in Singapore are four or five efficiently conducted institutions and there has been a general though slow movement towards improvement in the private English schools in general. In 1936 there were 6,169 pupils in these schools in Singapore and 77 in Labuan. A still further step in the policy of improving the quality of the teachers was taken during the year by raising the minimum scholastic qualification for registration as a teacher from the Junior to the School Certificate (Senior Local) Examination. Selected teachers from private schools, who held the necessary initial qualification were admitted for training in the newly formed Singapore Primary Normal Class.

There were 12 private English schools in Penang with an enrolment of 851 boys and 143 girls. In Malacca there were 6 such schools with 306 boys and 33 girls.

The second annual Conference of the Heads of Singapore Government and Aided English schools was held under the presidency of the Inspector of Schools and formed a valuable medium for the exchange of ideas on

school organisation and method. As a result of the Conference various improvements in school organisation were made.

The appointments of European Supervisors—a Group Supervisor (man) for elementary classes and a Primary Supervisor (woman) for primary classes—in charge of groups of English schools with locally trained Principals were continued and the new arrangement was found to lead to a marked improvement in teaching methods. The Supervisors were also responsible for the Normal Class for Primary Teachers.

Arrangements were made in Singapore at the beginning of 1936 by which pupils in Aided Schools were taught Science on Saturday mornings and in the afternoons by science masters on the staffs of their own schools under the direction of the senior science master of Raffles Institution where the classes were held. Very satisfactory reports of the progress made were received.

There is no central College for the training of teachers for English Schools. When training is given it is supplied at Normal Classes* held at one centre in each of the three Settlements, but these classes have not been in full operation for some years. In 1936, however, a demand for teachers for primary work in the schools resulted in the re-opening of these classes in Singapore and Penang, and First Year Classes were started at both of these places in the course of the year; the students were all women, some of them being untrained teachers employed by private schools.

Three men from Penang were allowed to present themselves at a final Normal Class Examination held in 1936, and of these two passed.

The extensive and valuable scheme of Post Normal training was continued in Singapore, and many of the classes were arranged by the Department in conjunction with the Singapore Teachers' Association. A second elementary course in Malayan Plant Life was held by the Assistant Director of Gardens and the most successful students in the 1935 course were admitted to a special course in Systematic Botany. It is hoped that through the teachers who attend these classes a start may be made with the teaching of Biology. One of the European officers who attended this course, a qualified science mistress, is preparing a series of simple textbooks for use in schools, the first of which "Nature Study in the Tropics" was published in 1936. Other teachers' courses held were in Speech Training and the Drama, in General Elementary Science, in First Aid, in Art and Handwork, in Folk Dancing and in Singing. The course in General Elementary Science, for which a fee was charged, was conducted by the Professor of Chemistry, Raffles College, and was attended by over seventy teachers. The course in First Aid was conducted by the local branch of St. John's Ambulance Society. The fine spirit of effort and enthusiasm shown by teachers in all the Post-Normal classes was a happy augury for the future.

Courses were run in Woodwork and Science for Trained teachers at Penang.

Teachers for all classes other than the first three primary classes are now recruited from Raffles College. In 1936 seven Raffles College graduates were appointed to Government and Aided Schools in Singapore and one to an Aided School in Malacca while 13 teachers who had received their training in Normal Classes and who were not in employment in Government or Aided Schools were given appointments; 12 in Singapore and one in Malacca.

* A Normal Class is a Class for training teachers

C.—VOCATIONAL AND INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION

Technical Education.—Pupils from the Straits Settlements are admitted to the Government Technical School at Kuala Lumpur in the Federated Malay States where courses of training are given for students from the Public Works, Railways, Electrical, and Posts and Telegraphs Departments, and accommodation provided also for a class conducted by the Survey Department for its own subordinates.

In the Government Evening Classes in Singapore courses were provided in Plumbing, Structural Engineering, Machine Design, Surveying, Chemistry and Sanitary Engineering. The classes with the highest average attendance were Plumbing (60 in the 3rd term), Machine Design (34 in the 3rd term) and Structural Engineering (31 in the 3rd term). The classes, like all classes of this type everywhere, suffer from irregular enthusiasm, but, in general, steady and useful work was done during the year.

The Government Evening Classes in Singapore also continued to provide Nautical courses that were well attended throughout the year. The local nautical examinations were taken: twenty four qualified, twelve as helmsmen, seven as gunners and five as local trade masters. The numbers in these classes are limited in accordance with the requirements of the Port. Through the Master Attendant's Department, which is in direct contact with the various shipping companies, information is obtained regarding all vacancies for those who are qualified.

Government Evening Classes were also held at Penang in Radio Engineering, Machine Drawing and Applied Mathematics. The two latter were started at the request of the Straits Steamship Company and proved very popular.

Agricultural Education.—There is no school of agriculture in the Straits Settlements but pupils may proceed to the School of Agriculture at Serdang, near Kuala Lumpur, in the Federated Malay States, where one-year and two-year courses of study are followed. Government provided a number of scholarships to this school in 1936.

Four Singapore English schools maintained vegetable gardens during the year and received help and advice from the Agricultural Department which reported favourably on the work done. In addition eight Malay schools had gardens. In the annual Exhibition of Work of the Malay schools a section for vegetables and flowers was included for the first time. Geylang English School was placed first in the English School garden competition and Tanah Merah Besar School second in the parallel Malay School competition.

The useful holiday agricultural course was held at Bukit Mertajam in April and attended by 56 boys. The Poultry Farm there continued to be fairly successful and another was started at Bagan Tuan Kechil. Forty-nine Malay schools have gardens, and 2,695 boys attend their own home plots; three schools have their own rice fields.

Gardening continues to be of a high standard in the vernacular schools at Malacca. One thousand two hundred boys had home gardens. In addition to the annual inter-school Garden Competition, the Malay Schools Second Annual Agricultural Show was held in Malacca town on 26th September, 1936. Six hundred exhibits were received—an increase of 200 over those of 1935. The Show attracted great attention. Three parties of Malacca gurus visited Serdang School of Agriculture during the year.

Poultry keeping at Pengkalan Balak School in Malacca showed good progress. It was found necessary to expand the poultry run. Nine cross-bred Rhode Island Red cockerels were sold to kampong people.

Commercial Education.—Courses of study covering the better part of two years are provided by the Commercial Departments of Raffles Institution, St. Joseph's Institution, and the French Convent in Singapore, and the Government Day School in Penang and in the Government Evening Classes courses were given in Shorthand, Typewriting and Book-keeping. There are also several efficient private commercial schools in Singapore. The extent of the commercial work in schools and evening classes in Singapore is indicated by the number of entries in 1936 for the examinations of the London Chamber of Commerce, namely 1,011 candidates with 2,595 subject entries.

The Government Evening Classes at Penang provided courses in Advanced Book-keeping and Accountancy, Economics, Typewriting, Book-keeping and Shorthand. Seven entered for the Higher Certificate of the London Chamber of Commerce and 82 for the ordinary certificate at the November examination.

Evening Commercial Classes were also held regularly at Malacca, but Shorthand and Typewriting were the only subjects taught. Ten students sat for the London Chamber of Commerce Autumn Examination. These classes fill a definite need in Malacca, where there exists no other means of obtaining commercial education.

Industrial Education.—(a) The Singapore Trade School had an enrolment of 134 students of whom 87 were taking the general mechanics training course, 26 the electrical and 21 the plumbing course. Each is a three-year course and in 1936, 32 completed the course, namely 20 mechanics, six electricians and six plumbers.

As in past years, some outside work was done. The amount undertaken was not so excessive as to interfere with the progressive scheme of instruction but ensured necessary practical training. The gross revenue from outside work was \$3,990.76 of which \$990.76 represented profit.

A special Plumbing Shop was completed during the year to replace the temporary building formerly in use. The plant of the school was increased by the addition of a milling machine, an air compressor, a small drilling machine, a few second-hand electric motors and generators for experimental work, a four-foot planing machine and additional plumbing and electrical tools. The students constructed a brake-horse power testing machine, a variable voltage D.C. generating set and an electrical test board.

An important departure was made in arranging for an officer of the Public Works Department to be Electrical Adviser to the school and to pay regular visits of inspection. His advice regarding syllabus and equipment has been most valuable.

Instruction in electrical and acetylene welding was added to the syllabus and the Singapore Harbour Board kindly arranged for students in rotation to receive two months' training in their welding department. The Far East Oxy-Acetylene Company provided Oxygen and Acetylene free of charge.

The first two Jubilee Memorial Scholarships of the value of \$12 a month each were awarded in 1935, the first to LIM SOM CHAI of St. Andrew's School and the second to CHUA THONG TAK of Victoria School.

Fees of \$3 a month (\$36 or £4 4s. a year) were paid by all except a limited number of poor students. There was great demand for admission

and there were over one hundred names on the waiting list at the end of the year.

Thanks largely to the Advisory Committee, which took a keen and sustained interest in the work of the school throughout the year, no difficulty was found in placing qualified students in employment. Very few of the qualified students who have passed out of the Singapore Trade School have been given employment in Government Departments: most are absorbed into private employment though none has yet been placed with local Chinese firms.

(b) The enrolment at the Penang Trade School fell to 70, 48 boys leaving and only 35 being admitted. Of these 48 only 24 had completed the course. The reason given for leaving prematurely was, in all cases, poverty. Boys who complete the course have no difficulty in obtaining employment. An officer from the Naval Base visited the school in September and expressed himself as quite satisfied with the standard of work. Six ex-students have since obtained employment there.

One new 6½" lathe and one Gray 1" lathe together with a circular Milling table and Milling machine and a complete welding set were installed during the year.

Gross receipts for work done were approximately \$4,000 of which \$1,000 was profit. Maintenance contracts for the Excise, Posts and Telegraphs, and Medical Departments were satisfactorily carried out.

Twenty-two out of 24 graduates found work on leaving.

(c) The Malacca Trade School had an enrolment of 22 students in the 2nd year class and one in the first year class at the beginning of the year. After the reduction of the fee in May the enrolment in the first year class rose to 22. At the end of the year the enrolment was 42 of whom five were Eurasians, one Chinese and 36 Malays.

The question of financial difficulties was again serious. Five boys were given scholarships of \$6 a month, four received \$3 a month and five were made free scholars. One boy received assistance in travelling. Several boys used an old hospital building as a hostel.

Both classes studied practical and theoretical carpentry and the 2nd year class was given a course in building construction in addition. It was found impossible to start a class in tailoring owing to the lack of demand.

The work was inspected twice during the year by an outside examiner, who expressed himself satisfied with the progress of the studies.

D.—UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGIATE (POST-SECONDARY) EDUCATION

The highest educational institutions in Malaya are the King Edward VII College of Medicine and Raffles College, both in Singapore. The course at the College of Medicine covers six years and is recognised by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom. Licentiates of the College are thus able to secure admission to the Colonial List of the Medical Register and to be registered as medical practitioners in any part of the British Dominions.

There is also a fully organised dental school in which a five years' course of training is given, the Diploma in Dental Surgery entitling its holder to practise in Malaya.

There is a four years' course for a diploma in Pharmacy, entitling the holder to register under the Registration of Pharmacists Ordinance and to

hold a licence under the Poisons and Deleterious Drugs Ordinance, thereby enabling him to practise as a dispenser in Malaya.

Raffles College was opened in 1928 in order to place education of a University standard within the reach of all youths in British Malaya who were capable of profiting by it, and to meet an urgent need for qualified teachers for secondary classes. It provides three year courses in Arts and Science, and Diplomas are awarded to successful students.

The College awards annually ten Entrance Scholarships of a value of \$720 a year tenable for three years, and a limited number of Second and Third Year Exhibitions, not exceeding \$500 a year, are available for students who show exceptional ability during their first or second years at College.

Two scholarships known as Queen's Scholarships, the value of which may amount to £500 for the first year and £400 for any subsequent year, up to six years in all, are awarded every year after examination and selection. The examining body is appointed by the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate and it is a condition that no scholarship shall be awarded to a candidate who, in the opinion of the examining body, is not fit to study for an honours degree at Oxford or Cambridge. Queen's Scholars are ordinarily required to proceed to a residential college at Oxford or Cambridge.

The annual examination for these scholarships, the thirteenth since they were restored by Government in 1923, was held in October. The successful candidates were LIM HONG BEE and CHIA KIM CHWEE of the Raffles Institution, Singapore. The first received all his secondary education at Raffles Institution while the second was at the Anglo-Chinese School, Singapore, before his admission to the Queen's Scholarships Class. Both the scholars are taking Law at Cambridge University. Fourteen candidates competed at the examination.

E.—VERNACULAR EDUCATION

Malay Vernacular Schools.—Malay vernacular education is entirely free. School buildings (as a rule), quarters for staff, staff, equipment and books are all provided by Government.

The aim in these schools is (i) to give a general and practical education to those boys and girls who will not receive an English education and who will find employment in vocations like agriculture in which a knowledge of English is not essential, and (ii) to provide preliminary vernacular education for pupils who will later receive an English education.

In 1936 there were 214 Malay vernacular schools with an average enrolment of 25,211 pupils. The figures for 1935 were 211 schools and 24,110 pupils. There is also an aided Malay school at Pulau Bukom, near Singapore, at which the enrolment was 60. In addition there were two private Malay schools in Singapore which had 378 pupils.

In Singapore, an important innovation in 1936 was the formation of a Standard VI at Kota Raja School. It consisted of selected boys from all the Malay schools in Singapore. The minimum qualification for admission was a creditable pass in the 1935 Standard V examination. The curriculum included Basic English (introduced as an experiment, though it has been decided in future years to teach traditional English instead) and is specially designed, with emphasis placed on manual work, to produce "handy" youths suitable for posts in shops and offices. The class was very successful

and will become increasingly necessary as more and more boys pass out from Standard V at an age when they are too young to enter employment.

Those who are to become teachers in the Malay vernacular boys' schools are selected from the pupils who have shown promise. As pupil teachers they both teach and study until they have attained the age of sixteen between which time and their eighteenth birthday they sit for an examination qualifying for admission to the Sultan Idris Training College at Tanjong Malim in the Federated Malay States. If they do sufficiently well they are accepted into the College and put through a three-year course. Graduates of the College are designated "Trained Teachers".

In Singapore there were special classes for teachers in Malay schools in practical teaching, arithmetic, geography, carpentry (men only) and handwork. Separate classes for men and women were held and the progress made, particularly in Art and Handwork, was excellent.

The Rochore Girls' School, a school for selected pupils from all the Malay Girls' School in Singapore, continued to progress. The curriculum includes English as well as Malay but places special emphasis on art and handwork, nursing, cookery, needlework and homecraft generally. The Government Health Department gave valuable assistance in the teaching of nursing and hygiene. From this school are now drawn all the candidates for the teaching profession and as a result the new pupil teachers are far superior to the old.

The most important event of the year was the opening of the new Kampong Melayu (Malay Settlement) Malay School. There was a Scout display, an exhibition of work, and a school entertainment and there were gratifying indications of the happy co-operation between parents and the school that has of recent years become a feature of Malay education.

The Malay Women Teachers' Training College, Malacca, which opened in 1935, had an enrolment of 24 students drawn from the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States. The staff consisted of a Principal and an Assistant, both Europeans. The health of the students was good and there was a gratifying improvement in personal hygiene, mainly due to the popularity of "beauty" classes and to the rivalry in nicety of lingerie that arose, but one or two girls needed strict hair supervision and verminous heads continued to be still a matter of great concern; the cleansing of food utensils and dishes left much to be desired unless supervised daily, while drill in mannerly and tidy eating was very necessary. General behaviour was excellent, the students showing some aptitude in themselves arranging for amusements during their leisure time; a debating society inaugurated and managed by the students met once a week; a prefect system was introduced and worked very well indeed. By the end of the year the students were able to take notes with reasonable accuracy in sense and spelling, and the results in the final examination were distinctly better than in 1935; arithmetic and the scientific aspect of geography were subjects that remained difficult to the majority, but history made special appeal; all branches of industrial work gave great satisfaction when treated in class, but application of the training to daily life was exhibited by only a few of the students. Every student taught six criticism lessons during the year; the lessons showed vitality and, occasionally, originality on the part of the teachers, but there was usually a lack of forethought and a failure to grasp the child's difficulties. Badminton continued to be the principal game played, the bad condition of the temporary field militating against the popularity of netball; all forms of physical exercise were taught including

class drill, country dancing and rhythm. On Fridays the students entertained to tea and games the staffs of the girls' schools in the neighbourhood and the members of the Malacca Girls' Club; in April they gave a performance of "The Sleeping Beauty" before an audience of Europeans, and in original sketches fully exhibited the natural dramatic wit of the Malays; at a meeting held for the purpose of the presentation to the French Convent of the Badminton Cup, the students entertained 200 guests; visits to the cinema were arranged once a month whenever a suitable film was screened. All students admitted in 1935 completed two years' training by the end of the year and were appointed teachers in Malay girls' schools in December.

Chinese Vernacular Schools.—There are no Government Chinese Schools in the Colony. The number of Chinese schools receiving grants-in-aid in 1936 was 28 in Singapore, 22 in Penang and five in Malacca. There is an increase of 18 in Singapore and two in Malacca over the 1935 figures. The Penang figure remained the same. The total grants paid to these schools was \$96,980 as against \$49,308 in 1935.

The grants to Chinese vernacular schools are in two grades for primary schools, \$10 (£1 3s. 4d.) a year or \$5 (11s. 8d.) a year for each pupil in average attendance. The grant system was extended in 1936 to Middle schools at the rate of \$18 (£2 2s.) a year or \$12 (£1 8s.) a year for each pupil in average attendance. In order to qualify for the higher grade, schools must teach English with reasonable efficiency and must employ for that purpose a teacher who holds the minimum qualification of a Junior Cambridge Certificate or a certificate recognised by the Director of Education as of equal value. In addition to these grants certain schools with Normal classes receive a special grant of \$25 (£2 18s. 4d.) a year in respect of a limited number of pupils in their normal classes. This number is determined by the number who may be reasonably expected to be absorbed as teachers in the local schools.

There are three types of schools :—

- (i) those managed by properly constituted committees;
- (ii) pseudo-public schools, *i.e.* schools organised by one or more teachers who choose their own "committee members";
- (iii) private schools run by a teacher who relies on the school fees for his livelihood, these schools being usually small and old in type.

There are several free schools at which a nominal fee of 50 cents (1s. 2d.) a month is charged. The fees in other schools are usually round about \$2 (4s. 8d.) a month.

In almost all the private schools the native dialects of the pupils are still used in teaching, but in the other schools Colloquial Mandarin is the almost universal language of instruction. English is taught in many of the large schools and in some of the smaller. The standard is very low, but attempts have been made to improve it by insisting on a minimum qualification of a Cambridge Junior Certificate from teachers engaged solely to teach English, and by having a standard curriculum drawn up for the guidance of teachers of English.

The Primary course in Chinese schools normally occupied six years. The Government has little if any control over the fees charged, the hours of attendance, or the length of holidays in any except the Aided schools. The usual school subjects are found in the curriculum.

Secondary education for boys is provided in Singapore at the Chinese High School which in 1936 completed a three year Junior Middle Course. In Penang there were two schools for boys which provided a secondary education as well as a primary course. In Malacca one boys' school provided post primary classes, but not a complete secondary course. One girls' school in Singapore provided a three year secondary course, which is followed by a three year Normal course. Three girls' schools in Singapore and two in Penang provide a post primary Normal course.

Inter-school sports for Chinese schools managed by the Education Department have for some years been an annual event in Penang. In 1936 Singapore and Malacca were also included. The meetings in all the three Settlements were a great success and it is intended that in future annual sports shall be a regular event.

An Inter-School Examination which was started in 1935 was again held this year. The subjects in which pupils were examined were Chinese, English, Mathematics, History and Geography. It is hoped that this examination may help to raise the standard of education in Chinese schools.

At the close of 1936 there were 440 registered schools with 1,696 registered teachers and 36,657 pupils. The figures for 1935 were 430 schools, 1,518 teachers and 32,486 pupils.

Tamil Vernacular Schools.—There were no Government Tamil Schools in the Straits Settlements. Most of the Tamil schools in Penang and Province Wellesley, and all those in Malacca, were estate schools founded either voluntarily or by order of the Controller of Labour. The remainder were private schools run by mission bodies or committees.

Education is entirely free in estate schools; in some of these the children also receive free uniforms (from toddy-shop profits) and the parents a gift of rice if attendance is satisfactory. The schools run by Christian missions or Indian Associations usually give free education to the poor. In proprietary schools the fees seldom exceed \$1 (2s. 4d.) a month.

At the end of the year there were 62 Tamil schools in the Colony with 2,816 pupils (of whom 1,020 were girls). The figures for 1935 were 52 schools with 2,231 pupils (of whom 844 were girls).

Of the 62 schools, 37 schools with 2,038 pupils received grants-in-aid which in 1936 amounted to \$13,434 as against \$8,037 in 1935.

No Singapore schools were in receipt of grants-in-aid. The most efficient of these schools was not in need of a grant and none of the others reached a standard high enough to justify a grant, though improvement was registered.

The appointment of a Tamil Assistant Inspector of Schools has resulted in a better understanding between the Education Department and the Managers of schools, with the result that greater efforts are now being made to fulfil requirements with regard to school buildings and equipment.

One estate school in Malacca taught Malayalam and about 15 children in another school learnt Telugu.

There is no provision in Malaya for the training of Tamil teachers. An attempt is being made to raise the standard of qualifications of teachers by holding qualifying examinations of those applicants who can show no proof of their attainments.

Malacca teachers have been given an opportunity to learn something about physical training in schools, and, with the engagement of a teacher who has taken a course under the Superintendent of Physical Education, it

is hoped to encourage the widespread inclusion of efficient physical training in the curriculum of estate schools.

Though there is no policy of co-education, a number of girls attend boys schools. There is only one Tamil vernacular school for girls in the Colony, the Convent Tamil School at Penang, and even this has a few boys in its lower classes.

F.—MUSIC, ART, DRAMA AND RECREATION

Music.—An important experiment in the organisation and supervision of the teaching of music was commenced during the year by the appointment of a Master of Music for the Colony. On his arrival he was posted to Singapore and was placed on the staff of a Singapore English school until the end of the year to enable him to gain first-hand acquaintance with local problems and teaching difficulties. To assist him in the preliminary survey of conditions the teachers of singing were formed into classes taken by him in the afternoons. He assisted the Choir and Orchestra of the Singapore Teachers' Association and made himself familiar with local musical conditions. He was appointed one of the two school representatives on the Children's Concert Committee. This Committee of which Major E. A. BROWN, O.B.E., is the Chairman and moving spirit, was again responsible for maintaining the Children's Orchestra (started in 1933) and arranging concerts for the children of the schools. At the end of the year the Children's Orchestra, in conjunction with various adult orchestras, gave an orchestral concert in aid of the local Rotary Fund for Christmas celebrations for the unemployed, and was the recipient of warm eulogies.

Lessons in musical appreciation were, as in past years, given in many schools. Part-singing and sight-singing of a high standard were continued at several schools, and several schools maintained school orchestras.

Art.—The high standard of past years was maintained. In the Primary Department, *Primary Classes and Standard I*, more attention was given to choice of subject matter and in consequence there was greater freedom in interpretation and individual expression. In these classes the handwork exercises were arranged according to the psychological and physiological development of the child and too high a standard of neatness and finish was not demanded. A remarkable and pleasing advance was made in the use of colour. In the Elementary Classes, *Standard II to Standard V*, a scheme of observational drawing was followed supplemented by creative work of various kinds and the teaching of design was introduced in a practical manner allied to some simple craft. The most popular handwork took the form of crafts connected with bookbinding such as stick printing, potato printing, marbling, block printing and stencilling. Basketry and cane weaving were also extensively practised. In the girls' schools, decorative needlework formed the bulk of the handwork. In the Secondary Classes, *Standard VI and upwards*, the scheme leads naturally and without forcing to the completion of the Art Syllabus for the School certificate Examination. The usual Art classes for teachers in the English and Malay schools in Singapore were again held and the enthusiasm and interest that have been so marked a feature of these classes for some years past continued unabated.

All Government English schools and three large Malay schools in Penang include carpentry in their curriculum.

Malacca schools still lack the advantages of having a local drawing instructor, but instruction in this subject was attempted in all schools.

Drama.—This very important aid to self-expression and to language teaching was much used in all schools, English and vernacular. The lowest classes of the English and Malay schools act simple plays and dramatize stories. In the higher classes more ambitious presentations, such as scenes from Shakespeare, are attempted.

The Singapore Teachers' Association again arranged for special courses for its members in elocution and the drama, and presented two short modern plays during the year. Short prose plays formed a feature of the programme of the Prize Distributions of most schools, English and Malay. Parts of well known Tamil dramas are frequently acted in Tamil schools.

Recreation.—Adequate provision was made in all schools, English and Malay, for recreation. The more popular games, football, cricket, and hockey, were played in all boys' schools. Provision was made in some schools for badminton, tennis, volley ball and basket ball. Malay schools are particularly keen on association football and have football leagues of their own.

All English schools held annual sports meetings. Facilities for indoor games, such as ping-pong and badminton, were often to be found, and a number of schools possess see-saws, swings, slides, etc., for the younger children.

Organised games were conducted in most of the girls' schools in the time allotted for physical training. In Malay girls' schools folk games were included in the physical training as part of the curriculum.

A special class in Folk Dancing was held for women teachers in Singapore and 31 qualified for certificates of attendance and achievement.

The Superintendent of Physical Education was posted to Malacca on his return from leave in August, 1936. He has revived interest in physical education and has held classes for teachers in addition to making inspections of schools.

The Guide movement received considerable impetus from the official visit to Malaya of an officer specially qualified to take training courses. The Scout movement during the year recorded special extension in the Rover Scout movement which rendered much useful service to the various school Troops and Packs. Malacca won the competition for the Scout District with the best Malay School Troops in the Peninsula. In the parallel competition for the best English School Troops, Penang was placed second to Negri Sembilan.

G.—ORPHANAGES AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS

The St. Nicholas Home (a Church of England Institution supported by the Government), receives blind and physically defective children, without restriction as to race or religion, from all over Malaya. There was an average of 15 boys and girls in the Home during 1936.

This Home is at Penang and it gives instruction in Braille by a qualified instructor. The Government grant was \$1,550. Lord NUFFIELD on his visit to Penang gave this institution \$10,000.

There are fifteen orphanages in the Colony (five in Singapore, five in Penang and five in Malacca), with 1,475 orphans in 1936, maintained by various religious bodies. Most of these orphanages receive some measure of Government support which in 1936 amounted to \$39,328.

The orphans are educated in their own language and, in addition, receive an elementary English education. The girls are then taught house-keeping and needlework. They generally marry or take up domestic service

when they leave, but some continue their education at English schools and become teachers or hospital nurses. The boys go to English schools where they receive the same treatment as ordinary pupils.

Po Leung Kuk Homes, established in connection with rescue work among women and girls, are maintained at Singapore, Penang and Malacca. The Homes are supported by private and Government subscriptions, and are supervised by committees of which the Secretary for Chinese Affairs is the Chairman.

Victims of traffickers, women and girls discovered on boats from China in suspicious circumstances, as well as *mui tsai* who complain of ill-treatment, are detailed in the Homes, where they remain until suitable arrangements can be made for their welfare.

The Home in Singapore has accommodation for 300.

During the year the Salvation Army with the assistance of the local Rotary Club opened the Salvation Army Industrial Home in Singapore for waifs and strays (boys). The enrolment at the end of the year was 125 and the Home seeks to provide the boys with an elementary education, with a practical bias, in English or Malay.

CHAPTER X

Communications and Transport

A.—SHIPPING.

Communications by sea between the various Settlements are frequent and regular.

A weekly mail service between Singapore and Labuan is maintained by ships belonging to the Straits Steamship Company. Vessels belonging to this Company also ply regularly from Malacca to Penang and Singapore, and there are Chinese-owned vessels engaged in coastal trade. Most of the mail and passenger ships which call at Singapore call at Penang also. Christmas Island is served by the s.s. "*Islander*" which belongs to the Christmas Island Phosphate Company and maintains a five-weekly service.

The Colony is very favourably situated for communication by sea with other countries, as Singapore is a nodal point for traffic between Europe, the Netherlands Indies, British India and the Far East.

The tonnage of all vessels entered and cleared at the five ports of the Colony (Singapore, Penang, Malacca, Labuan and Christmas Island) during the year 1936 was 48,038,328 tons, being 627,515 tons more than in 1935. Particulars are shown in Appendix "C". The increase at Singapore was 199,490 tons, and at Christmas Island 22,888 tons. Penang, Malacca and Labuan combined showed an increase of 405,137 tons.

The figure for merchant vessels above 75 tons net register increased by 571,035 tons.

In the last six years the combined arrivals and departures of merchant vessels have been as follows :—

1931	...	...	...	43,632,445 tons
1932	...	...	...	43,424,295 ,,
1933	...	...	...	43,056,128 ,,
1934	...	...	...	44,006,480 ,,
1935	...	...	...	44,959,859 ,,
1936	...	...	...	45,530,894 ,,

B.—ROADS

The road systems of the various Settlements comprise a total of 978 miles of metalled roads, of which the Municipalities of Singapore, Penang and Malacca maintain 247 miles and the remaining 731 miles are maintained by the Public Works Department, mostly in Rural Board areas. In addition the Public Works Department maintains 166 miles of natural roads and hill paths.

The mileage in the various Settlements is given in the following table :—

Settlement		MUNICIPAL	GOVERNMENT AND RURAL BOARD ROADS			Total Road Mileage
		Roads and Streets	Metalled	Unmetalled and Natural	Total	
Singapore ..	..	162.21	*147.35	2.63	149.98	312.19
Penang ..	..	67.81	*79.31	29.02	108.33	176.14
P. Wellesley ..	..	..	178.68	26.87	205.55	205.55
Malacca ..	..	17.19	305.65	86.11	391.76	408.95
Labuan ..	..	..	19.77	21.35	41.12	41.12
TOTAL ..		247.21	730.76	165.98	896.74	1,143.95

* Includes Government private roads within Municipal Limits

Expenditure.—Expenditure on the 897 miles entrusted to the Public Works Department falls under two heads “Maintenance” and “Reconstruction” and totalled \$794,845.47 of which \$503,277.73 was for maintenance, and \$291,567.74 was for reconstruction. The average cost of maintenance was \$561.00 per mile.

Singapore Municipality spent \$238,792.11 on maintenance and \$103,351.54 on reconstruction making a total of \$342,143.65 for the year 1936 as compared with \$166,621.44 in the year 1935.

Penang and Malacca Municipalities spent \$97,966.30 and \$39,582.20 respectively as compared with \$97,205.96 and \$49,392.46 in the year 1935.

The principal road reconstruction work in the Colony was carried out in Singapore where the reconstruction of the Singapore—Johore Main Road and surfacing with asphaltic concrete was completed to within ½ mile of the Johore Causeway.

A further all round increase in motor transport is apparent from the following table showing the numbers of cars and lorries licensed during 1936 :—

Settlements		1935			1936		
		Cars	Lorries	Jinrick-shaws	Cars	Lorries	Jinrick-shaws
Singapore ..	..	7,765	2,246	4,000	(a) 8,514	2,467	4,705
Penang ..	..	2,277	489	2,489	2,493	511	2,548
Malacca ..	..	1,061	236	715	1,108	263	718
Total ..		11,103	2,971	7,204	12,115	3,241	7,971

(a) Singapore includes 282 Hackney Carriages

Public transport is provided in Singapore by the Singapore Traction Company which operates a fleet of 108 Trolley Buses and 102 Omnibuses on routes 24·94 and 25·63 miles long respectively. During the year 49,468,719 passengers were carried by the Company's vehicles.

In Penang public transport is provided by electric tramcars and trolley buses operated by the Municipal Electrical Department over a route of 13·6 miles which carried 10,021,517 passengers during 1936. The trams are gradually being replaced by trolley buses and now only 1·61 miles of Tramway Track is left in commission. The Penang Hill Railway of 1·25 miles in length is the approach to Penang Hill. During 1936 it carried 129,158 passengers to and from the hill which is 2,250 feet above sea level.

C.—RAILWAYS

The railways in the Colony are owned by the Federated Malay States Government. Singapore is connected with the mainland by a Causeway carrying both railway and road, but communication between Prai and the island of Penang is by ferry. Malacca is linked to the system by a branch line from Tampin.

From Province Wellesley a line runs North to the Siamese frontier station of Padang Besar and there connects with the Royal State Railways of Siam. Through traffic was opened on the 1st July, 1918, the distance from Singapore to Bangkok being 1,195 miles.

The day and night mail trains running between Singapore and Prai are provided with restaurant or buffet parlour cars and sleeping saloons. The journey of 488 miles takes approximately 22 hours allowing for a break of approximately 3 hours at Kuala Lumpur which is situated 246 miles from Singapore.

D.—AIRWAYS

Imperial Airways and the Royal Netherlands Airways (K.L.M.) each provide a fast, regular and reliable bi-weekly service, the former plying between Singapore and London and the latter between Singapore and Amsterdam and between Singapore and the Netherlands Indies. The aircraft of both companies call at Penang en route.

Co-operating with the Royal Netherlands Airways (K.L.M.) is the Royal Netherlands Indies Airways (K.N.I.L.M.), operating between Medan and Batavia *viâ* Singapore on a bi-weekly schedule. A weekly service between Batavia and Singapore *viâ* Palembang is also in operation.

Qantas Empire Airways, linking up Singapore and Australia, now operate a bi-weekly service in conjunction with the services of Imperial Airways. The usual time in transit between Australia and Singapore is 4 days.

Imperial Airways (Far East) Ltd., now operate a regular weekly service between Penang and Hong Kong. This service connects with the England-Australia service.

Singapore Civil Aerodrome.—It is expected that this Aerodrome will be ready for use in June, 1937.

This Aerodrome, situated some 2 miles only from the centre of Singapore, lies between the business area and the residential area on the eastern outskirts of the city. Approximately 259 acres of tidal swamp have been reclaimed, 7,000,000 cubic yards of filling being required for this work. When the work is completed, Singapore will possess a landing

ground 1,000 yards in diameter, and an extensive and sheltered anchorage for seaplanes situated close to the centre of the city.

Until this Aerodrome is completed commercial aircraft are allowed to use the Royal Air Force ground at Seletar.

Penang Civil Aerodrome.—This Aerodrome is used regularly by the air services to and from Europe. Full lighting equipment for night flying was installed in 1936.

The landing area comprises:—

N.E.—S.W. Landing strip 950 yards × 200 yards with asphalt macadam runway 60 yards wide down centre. (Macadamised turning and parking areas available at both ends 133 yards wide); and a

N.W.—S.E. Landing strip 800 yards × 200 yards. Grass surfaced.

Eight hundred and ten landings were made by aircraft at Penang during the year exclusive of the operations of the local club.

Flying Clubs.—“Taxi-flights” can be made by arrangement with the Malayan Flying Clubs who own 17 light aircraft.

The Royal Singapore Flying Club has completed its eighth successful year. It owns three Moth seaplanes, one Hornet and three Moth landplanes.

The Penang Flying Club added a B.A. Eagle to its fleet of three Moth Majors, the Leopard Moth having been written off. The Club continues to operate from the Penang Aerodrome.

Internal Services.—There are, as yet, no regular internal air services in operation but a more general interest in air transport is now apparent and their inauguration in the near future is to be expected.

E.—POSTS, MONEY ORDERS, TELEGRAPHS, TELEPHONES AND WIRELESS

(i).—Posts

The manifold activities of the Post Office available to the public in urban centres are, with minor restrictions, also at the service of the inhabitant of the remote village.

The Post Office supplements its primary function of letter carrier with the following services which touch the everyday life of the mercantile community and the private individual:—telephone, telegraph, radio-telegraphy, money order, postal order, savings bank, parcel post and cash-on-delivery system.

In the Straits Settlements full postal facilities are provided by 42 Post Offices; restricted services are in operation at 15 Agencies. These facilities are augmented by services rendered by 83 licensed Stamp-Vendors. At the close of the year 197 letter-posting boxes were in use; these boxes are additional to those installed at Post Offices and Postal Agencies.

During the year under review the continued improvement in general trade conditions had its effect on the volume and value of business transacted by the Department. The estimated number of postal articles dealt with during the year was 55,673,410 representing an increase of 16 per cent. over the estimated number dealt with during 1935. These figures include official, ordinary, registered and insured articles, printed papers, commercial papers, sample packets and parcels.

Surface-borne mails to and from Europe were despatched and received weekly alternately by vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company and of the British India Steam Navigation Company (*viâ* India). The average number of days occupied in transit in each direction was 22. Besides these regular despatches, mails containing correspondence specially superscribed for transmission by ships of other lines were also made up and received.

The expansion of air mail services made rapid progress during 1936; the more important developments were (i) the inauguration on the 23rd March of a weekly service between Penang and Hong Kong by Imperial Airways craft, (ii) the duplication with effect from the 15th May of the weekly service by Qantas Empire Airways between Singapore and Australia. The Penang—Hong Kong Air Service is of particular importance to Malaya; apart from a nett saving of about 3 days over the surface transport of correspondence addressed to Hong Kong itself the new air link also affords an opportunity for despatching letters for China, Japan, Macao and the Philippine Islands, by air to Hong Kong thence by surface transport to destination, with a very considerable saving in time. The extensive use already being made of this service is ample testimony to the benefits it confers on the community at large.

Other developments worthy of note are the extension of the air mail money order service to Hong Kong, China, Japan, Macao and the Philippine Islands on the 28th March, the introduction on the 1st April of combined air and postage fees for letters and postcards to all places for which correspondence may be sent by air and the admission on the 8th May of Chinese Clubbed Packets (remittance letters) to the air mail service to Hong Kong.

The average weekly weight of mail despatched from Malaya to Great Britain by Imperial Airways Service showed a steady increase throughout the year; from 361 lbs. in January it rose to 390 lbs. in November. The heaviest mails during the year were, naturally, those despatched in December with their Christmas and New Year Greetings traffic; the three mails despatched during the period ending the 20th December totalled 1,616 lbs. as compared with 1,536 lbs. during the corresponding period in 1935.

(ii).—MONEY ORDERS

The value of money orders issued and paid during 1936 amounted to \$9,492,650 as compared with \$7,990,913 in 1935.

(iii).—TELEGRAPHS

The number of postal telegraph offices in the Straits Settlements is 41. The Eastern Extension Australasia and China Telegraph Company, Limited, owns and operates ten submarine cables radiating from Singapore.

The total number of telegrams sent and received in the course of the year was 685,886 an increase of approximately 2 per cent. on the 1935 figures.

The total value of telegraph business including Government Messages sent free of charge decreased from \$213,519 in 1935 to \$192,435 in 1936, a decrease of approximately 10 per cent.

The total numbers of Inland Greetings Telegrams handed in during the year were as follows :—

Christmas and New Year	...	...	...	633
Chinese New Year	...	...	...	225
Hari Raya Puasa	...	...	...	105
Deepavali	...	...	...	80

During the year the new service indication “NLT” was introduced, denoting Night Letter Telegrams Service (Foreign). This service at present operates between Malaya and Great Britain, Northern Ireland, Irish Free State and Hong Kong only. These telegrams generally follow the rules for Daily Letter Telegrams as regards charges and special services admitted except that the normal delivery will be on the morning after the day of handing in.

Satisfactory teleprinter (Telegraph) working was maintained on the main telegraph circuits throughout the year and, in continuation of the policy to eliminate morse working, the Penang—Ipoh morse circuit was replaced by Teleprinter.

The following morse circuit was converted to Telephone—Telegram working :—

Penang—Kulim.

(iv).—TELEPHONES

The number of telephones in service continues to increase and at the end of the year under review 1,739 direct exchange lines were connected to the Straits Settlements telephone system as compared with 1,670 at the end of 1935. These figures do not include lines in Singapore, where the telephone system is operated by the Oriental Telephone and Electric Company, Limited, under licence.

The total number of telephone instruments installed was 2,733 and other miscellaneous circuits numbered 133.

The nett revenue derived from telephones during the year was \$375,919, an apparent decrease of \$290 as compared with 1935. This apparent decrease was due to a reorganisation of the telephone accounting system involving collection of rentals for shorter periods in advance. There was in fact an increase in revenue. Included in the 1936 revenue figure above is \$142,915 derived from trunk and junction services representing an increase of \$8,986 over the previous year.

The Department now maintains 18 telephone exchanges for public service. There are three general types namely—

- (a) Twelve Manual Exchanges. All switching at these exchanges is performed by operators.
- (b) Four Full Automatic Exchanges. Subscribers connected to these Exchanges obtain their own local connections by dialling, and have access to an operator (usually at a remote exchange) for trunk and junction calls.
- (c) Two Semi-Automatic Exchanges. Connections on these exchanges are set up by an operator at a remote exchange, to which the apparatus routes all calls. Subscribers are not provided with dialling devices and this type of working is practicable only at very small exchanges up to 10 lines.

Preparations were made for the installation in the Malacca district of several Rural Automatic Exchanges of an improved type which provides facilities for dialling numbers on remote exchanges, and for dialling through one exchange of this type to another connected “in tandem”.

A new type of rural semi-automatic exchange equipment using relays only for making the necessary connections was also introduced for future use in sparsely populated areas. It has a capacity of 10 lines and requires to be connected to a “parent” manual exchange through which all calls pass.

Owing to general increase of traffic it was necessary to provide the following additional trunk and junction circuits during the year :—

Tampin—Malacca	...	...	...	1 Channel.
Parit Buntar—Nebong Tebal	...	...	...	1 „
Bukit Mertajam—S. Patani	...	...	...	1 „
Bukit Mertajam—Kulim	...	...	...	1 „
Bukit Mertajam—Penang	...	...	...	1 „

Radio-telephone services continued in operation between Malaya and—

- (a) Java, Madoera and Bali.
- (b) Philippine Islands. Zones I, II and III.
- (c) North Sumatra.
- (d) Macassar (Isle of Celebes).
- (e) Siam (Bangkok only).

Preliminary arrangements were completed for a radio-telephone service from Malaya to Great Britain and other European countries *viâ* Java. The fee for a 3 minute call to Great Britain has been fixed at \$51.

A reorganisation of the telephone accounting system has been arranged to take effect from the 1st January, 1937. The new system will provide for the payment of telephone subscriptions by monthly instalments, and for the provision of “phonogram” facilities for all subscribers.

(v).—WIRELESS

There are wireless stations at Paya Lebar (Singapore), Panaga (Province Wellesley), Christmas Island and Labuan.

The stations at Paya Lebar and Penaga are owned and controlled by Government, whilst the Christmas Island Station is owned and operated by the Christmas Island Phosphate Company. The station in Labuan is owned and operated by the Brunei Government.

Short and medium wave ship-to-shore services are carried out by the Paya Lebar and Penaga Stations. The latter station also performs the duty of aerodrome wireless station for the Penang aerodrome. In the event of landline interruption it is utilised for communication with Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur or Singapore as the case may be.

Paya Lebar carries out communication by means of short waves with Christmas Island and Kuching (Sarawak), and in the event of landline interruption communication is maintained with Penaga or Kuala Lumpur.

The British official wireless press is received at Penaga and distributed to newspapers in Malaya.

The British Malaya Broadcasting Corporation, which is a limited company authorised to provide Broadcasting Service for the Island of Singapore, had under construction throughout the year the station and studios required for this purpose. These were nearing completion at the end of the year and experimental broadcasts were due to start on 1st January, 1937. The Corporation proposes broadcasting on a medium wavelength of approximately 225 metres.

A temporary licence under which a limited broadcasting service had been carried out for some years in Singapore was terminated on the 31st December, in view of the impending commencement of the service by the British Malaya Broadcasting Corporation.

In Penang broadcasting was carried out throughout the year by the Penang Wireless Society, an amateur organisation.

The number of wireless receiving licences issued continued to increase rapidly. At the end of December the total number of licences in force was 3,859. There was a marked increase in the sales of British-made wireless broadcast receivers.

The fourth annual wireless exhibition held in Penang in December under the auspices of the Penang Wireless Society was opened by His Excellency the Governor and High Commissioner.

Direction Finding Stations were in course of installation at Penaga and Paya Lebar primarily for civil aviation services. These stations will be ready for operation early in 1937.

CHAPTER XI

A.—CURRENCY

The standard coin of the Colony is the Straits Settlements silver dollar. This and the half-dollar (silver) are unlimited legal tender. There are subsidiary 20 cent, 10 cent and 5 cent silver coins and a 5 cent nickel coin, which are legal tender up to two dollars. There are also copper cents, half-cents and quarter-cents, but the quarter-cent has practically disappeared from circulation. Copper coin is legal tender up to one dollar. Currency notes are issued in denominations of \$10,000, \$1,000, \$100, \$50, \$10, \$5 and \$1. Notes of the first two denominations are used mainly for bankers' clearances.

During the War, and for some years after, notes for 25 cents and 10 cents were issued.

In 1906 the Currency Commissioners were empowered to issue notes in exchange for gold at the rate of \$60 for £7, and by order of the King in Council gold sovereigns were declared legal tender at this rate, the sterling value of the dollar being thus fixed at 2s. 4d. Gold, however, has never been in active circulation in the Colony, and when Great Britain abandoned the Gold Standard during the War and again in September, 1931, the local currency automatically followed sterling, to which it is linked at 2s. 4d. to the dollar.

The Currency Commissioners may accept sterling in London for dollars issued by them in Singapore at a fixed rate of 2s. 4 ³/₁₆d. to the dollar, and *vice versa*, may receive dollars in Singapore in exchange for sterling sold in London at the rate of 2s. 3 ³/₄d. to the dollar. The exchange fluctuations in the value of the dollar may therefore vary between these two limits. Excluding subsidiary coins, the currency of the Colony in circulation at the end of the year consisted of \$83,984,121.75 in notes and \$2,985,813 in dollars and half-dollars, while there were still in circulation bank notes issued by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China to the value of \$135,130 compared with \$135,795 at the end of 1935.

At the beginning of the year the Currency Notes in circulation amounted in value to \$77,122,486.25. There was a demand by the public for currency during the year and the consequent expansion in the note issue amounted to \$6,811,100. Currency notes were also issued in exchange for silver current coin during the period under review, the result over the whole year being that on 31st December, 1936, the note circulation stood at \$83,984,121.75.

It is a requirement of the law that a portion of the Currency Guarantee Fund, being not less than $\frac{2}{5}$ ths of the notes in circulation, shall be kept in "liquid" form, *i.e.* in current silver coin in the Colony and in Cash on deposit in the Bank of England, Treasury Bills, Cash at call, or other easily realisable securities in London. The balance can be invested and is known as the Investment Portion of the Fund.

The liquid portion of the Currency Guarantee Fund held by the Commissioners at the end of the year against the note circulation amounted to \$49,377,083.22, consisting of \$10,393,665.91 in silver and \$2,230,237.67 on deposit with the Government, held locally, and £4,287,870. 19s. 2d. in sterling and short-dated investments in London.

The investment portion of the Currency Guarantee Fund at the end of the year consisted of investments valued at \$109,504,152.96.

The excess value of the Fund, including cash at Bank \$27,547.26, over the total note circulation at the end of the year was \$74,925,278.69, compared with an excess of \$70,114,981.42 at the end of 1935.

There was a net issue by the Treasury of \$178,098.95 in subsidiary silver coins during the year.

Excluding the amount held by the Treasury \$10,543,604.55 was in circulation at the end of the year in subsidiary silver and \$722,402.00 in currency notes of values less than \$1. The value of notes below \$1 in circulation at the end of 1934 was \$723,459.20 and at the end of 1935 \$722,824.50.

Sixteen million six hundred and sixteen thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven and a half notes to the value of \$49,993,214.50 were destroyed during the year as against 15,655,945 $\frac{1}{4}$ notes to the value of \$46,700,053.95 in 1935.

B.—BANKING AND EXCHANGE

The following Banks had establishments in the Colony during the year :—

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.

„ Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

„ Mercantile Bank of India, Limited.

„ P. & O. Banking Corporation, Limited.

„ Eastern Bank, Limited.

Messrs. Thomas Cook & Son (Bankers), Limited.

The Netherlands Trading Society (Nederlandsche Handel Maatschappij).

„ Banque de L'Indo-Chine.

„ National City Bank of New York.

„ Netherlands India Commercial Bank (Nederlandsch Indische Handelsbank).

„ Sze Hai Tong Banking and Insurance Company, Limited.

„ Bank of Taiwan Limited.

„ Yokohama Specie Bank, Limited.

„ Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation, Limited.

„ China and Southern Bank, Limited.

„ Kwong Lee Banking Company.

„ Lee Wah Bank, Limited.

„ United Chinese Bank, Limited.

„ Ban Hin Lee Bank, Limited.

„ Bank of China.

During the year under report the sterling demand rate (bank opening rates only) ranged between $2\frac{1}{4}\frac{1}{8}$ and $2\frac{1}{4}$. $1/16$ d. The higher rate was obtainable from March to the end of the year.

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK

The number of depositors in the Savings Bank on the 31st December, was 44,937 as compared with 41,467 on the 31st December, 1935, an increase of 3,470. During the year 9,365 new accounts were opened while 5,895 accounts were closed.

The amount standing to the credit of the depositors on the 31st December was \$10,319,033 as compared with \$9,072,069 on the 31st December, 1935. The average amount to the credit of each depositor was \$219 and \$230 at the end of 1935 and 1936 respectively.

The book value of the investments held by the Savings Bank on the 31st December, was \$12,219,605 and the market value of these investments according to the Stock Exchange quotations on the same date was \$12,268,240.

The number of depositors on 31st December, 1936 under the Fixed Deposit Scheme was 435 and the amount standing to their credit was \$338,535.

C.—WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The standard measures recognised by the laws of the Colony are as follows :—

- (a) Standard of Length, the Imperial yard.
- (b) Standard of Weight, the Imperial pound.
- (c) Standard of Capacity, the Imperial gallon.

Among the Asiatic commercial and trading classes Chinese steelyards (called “daching”) of various sizes are generally employed for weighing purposes.

The following are the principal local measures used with their English equivalents :—

The chupak	...	...	equals	1	quart.
The gantang	...	...	„	1	gallon.
The tahl	...	...	„	$1\frac{1}{3}$	ozs.
The kati (16 tahils)	...	...	„	$1\frac{1}{3}$	lbs.
The pikul (100 katis)	...	...	„	$133\frac{1}{3}$	lbs.
The koyan (40 pikuls)	...	...	„	$5,333\frac{1}{3}$	lbs.

CHAPTER XII

A.—PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works in the Straits Settlements are administered by the Director of Public Works, who is stationed in Singapore and is assisted by the Deputy Director and Head Office staff and the Government Architect and his staff. Work in each of the other Settlements is controlled by a local head or Settlement Engineer who corresponds with, and takes his instructions from Headquarters in Singapore, in all matters of major importance. The approved establishment of the Department includes twenty-six fully qualified European Engineers, four Architects, two Electrical Engineers, one Mechanical Engineer and one Quantity Surveyor.

During 1936 the total expenditure for Public Works in the Straits Settlements was \$6,897,035.36 compared with \$6,271,656.39 for the previous year. The details are shown in the following table:—

Head of Estimate	Expenditure	Settlement	Total Expenditure	Expenditure Extraordinary
	\$ c.		\$ c.	\$ c.
Personal Emoluments	586,001.19	Singapore ..	4,341,553.33	3,149,640.61
Other Charges ..	154,339.09	Penang	672,980.94	311,253.53
Public Works Annual-ly Recurrent ..	1,765,544.63	Province Wellesley	216,918.31	99,099.31
Public Works Extra-ordinary ..	4,356,253.04	Malacca	515,549.73	318,946.36
Work for Other Departments ..	34,897.41	Labuan	25,856.77	6,177.44
		Public Works for Rural Boards S.S.	1,124,176.28	471,135.79
Total ..	6,897,035.36	Total ..	6,897,035.36	4,356,253.04

Annually Recurrent Expenditure was as follows:—

	1935	1936
	\$ c.	\$ c.
Roads, Streets, Bridges and Canals	537,539 07	615,313 47
Buildings and Miscellaneous Works (including Sea and River Works)	1,191,976 78	1,150,231 16
	<u>1,729,515 85</u>	<u>1,765,544 63</u>

Expenditure under Public Works Extraordinary on reconstruction and special works under the heading Roads, Streets, Bridges and Canals was \$404,392.11 in addition to the maintenance expenditure. The maintenance of 897 miles of road outside the Municipal areas cost \$503,277.73 or \$561.00 per mile.

Buildings and Miscellaneous Works.—The Extraordinary Expenditure under this heading amounted to \$3,951,860.93 and the following important works were completed:—

- (i) New Convict Prison, Changi, at a cost of \$1,987,835.88 up to the end of 1936. This still left some extra-mural buildings to be erected.
- (ii) One Class I and two Class III Quarters, Singapore, at a finished cost of \$118,294.31.
- (iii) The South-east Groyne at Malacca at a finished cost of \$48,624.96
- (iv) New Leper Camp, Pulau Jerejak, \$78,278.00. Altogether 60 semi-detached huts for less serious cases were completed and occupied by 220 patients.

The following important works were in progress during the year:—

SINGAPORE

Civil Aerodrome.—On which the expenditure during the year was \$2,043,965.68. This work of which the total estimated cost is \$7,339,000.00 will be completed in May, 1937.

Supreme Court.—Estimated cost \$1,577,000.00. The contract for the piled foundations was completed. It involved the driving of 789 piles

varying from 45 to 85 feet long. The plans of the superstructure were completed and tenders called in September. This is the first major building work for which the Bills of Quantities were prepared by the Public Works Department's Quantity Surveyor.

Beach Road Reclamation.—Estimated cost \$988,900.00. This work is being carried out in combination with the dredging of the Seaplane Channel. 441,061 y.c. of dredgings were deposited during the year. The scheme will reclaim 47 acres of land along the seafront at Beach Road.

Province Wellesley. Extension of Water Supply.—During the year \$52,302.14 was spent on this work bringing the total expenditure to the end of 1936 to \$618,891.00 of a finished estimated cost of \$850,000.00. Work was practically brought to a standstill in September by a grave disaster resulting in the loss of 15 lives.

Waterworks.—The Municipalities of Singapore, Penang and Malacca control their own water supplies which are up-to-date and excellent. Water can be drunk from the tap as safely here as in the leading towns in England. The various installations in the rest of the Straits Settlements are controlled by the Public Works Department and were well maintained throughout the year.

Electric Light and Power.—In Singapore and Penang, the Municipalities own and operate their own power stations. In Singapore an additional power station is owned by the Singapore Harbour Board. The Penang Municipality supplies current for Butterworth and Bukit Mertajam in Province Wellesley, on contract. In Malacca, a private Company supplies electricity in the Municipal area. Outside these areas the Public Works Department maintains small supplies and the total expenditure on these and the maintenance of the installations in Government Buildings in 1936 was \$176,025.00.

Sewage.—In Singapore and Penang the Municipal Sewage systems are being gradually extended. As the new sewers are made available, Government Quarters and Buildings are connected up. Where no public sewers are available septic tank installations are relied on. The effluents of these are periodically analysed and give reasonably satisfactory results.

General.—At the beginning of the year the Public Works Department had 40 contracts in hand; 253 were entered into during the year and at the close of the year 38 were incomplete.

The annual estimates included 192 Special Service items of which 28 were deleted and to which 63 were added leaving a total of 227 to be carried out. Of these 173 were completed, 33 were started but remained unfinished and no start was made on 21. The difficulty of fixing sites was the major cause of unfinished or unstarted works.

B.—DRAINAGE AND IRRIGATION

Penang Settlement.—The total area of land under cultivation with rice (*padi*) in the Settlement of Penang, including Province Wellesley, is about 40,000 acres. The work of the Department since it first began operations in this Settlement in 1933 has been mostly concerned with the restoration and improvement of drainage and irrigation of existing *padi* areas within the framework of already constructed roads and drainage systems. Eighty-five per cent. of the total area has now been brought under the control of the Department by the declaration of irrigation areas under the provision of the Irrigation Areas Ordinance.

Province Wellesley.—The principal areas in Province Wellesley are :—

Northern District—

Penaga Area	...	...	...	6,800 acres
Sungei Dua Area	...	...	...	9,000 „

Central District—

Sungei Kulim Area	...	...	...	3,500 acres
Kubang Semang Area	6,200 „

Southern District—

Sungei Acheh Area	4,550 acres
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The following is a very brief account of the work done and results obtained during the year and for more detailed information those who are interested should consult the Annual Report of the Drainage and Irrigation Department of the Colony of the Straits Settlements for the year 1935 and the Joint Annual Report of this Department for the F.M.S. and the Colony for 1936 by the Director, Drainage and Irrigation.

Penaga Area.—The total expenditure to the end of 1936 amounts to \$15,511, the work comprising the improvements in drainage by clearing and regrading the two main outlet drains, namely the Sungei Tembus and the Sungei Lahar Endin, which take the waters of Bertam Estate through the *padi* area to the sea. The area between these two drains has been bunded and the main internal drain has also been cleared, graded and provided with a water-gate at its outlet.

During the 1935–36 season, 6,689 acres were planted in wet *padi* yielding an average of 415 gantangs an acre. This was slightly less than the previous year, but Mukim I, including the Alor Kedah Rice Lands which were protected in the north from sea water by a bund constructed in 1935, showed an increase, the average yield being 500 gantangs per acre.

Sungei Dua Irrigation Area.—This is the largest of the irrigation areas; practically the whole of the area was planted during the last season. The yield was on an average of 338 gantangs per acre and is less than that of the previous year. The area suffered greatly in common with the rest of the Province from extremes of drought and flood. Up to the end of 1936 one control gate was built on the Sungei Orang Puteh in the South-east corner, costing \$950 and \$7,000 has been spent on the initial clearing and regrading of streams which are now maintained in good condition.

Sungei Kulim Area.—During the year six drainage control gates were constructed on the various streams and drains flowing through the area to conserve the rain water during the *padi* season and to exclude tidal waters. Three thousand two hundred and fourteen acres were planted during the 1935–36 season yielding an average of 285 gantangs per acre. In the 1936–37 planting season drought persisted until early September, ploughing, sowing of nurseries and planting out were all delayed but a better crop is expected this season.

Investigations for a scheme for the irrigation of this area from the Sungei Kulim were continued throughout the year and provision has been made in the 1938 Estimates for the commencement of the work.

Kubang Semang Area.—A sum of \$10,000 was entered in the 1936 Estimates to augment the supply of water to the area by the construction of a dam on the Sungei Kubang Semang. A site was chosen just below the road bridge near Kubang Semang village and during the year a sum of \$6,107 was spent on the scheme including the construction of 1½ miles

of irrigation channel along the edge of the *kampong*, but it was not possible to bring the scheme into operation during the 1936–37 season.

The yield in the 1935–36 season was low owing to bad weather, being 282 gantangs per acre on a planted area of 5,100 acres.

Sungei Acheh Area.—The Sungei Acheh Area is essentially a part of the great Krian Rice Area from which it is separated only by the artificial barrier of the Boundary Road, and during the past three years the Krian Irrigation Works have been enlarged and augmented to supply the Acheh Area with full irrigation as on the Perak side. The cost of the work is estimated at \$375,000 and is being borne in equal shares by the S. S. and Perak Governments.

A limited water supply was given from 1st July 1936 and it is expected that full supply can be given with Perak in the next season when the Ijok Diversion is completed. Four thousand acres of old *bendang* were planted in 1936 together with 220 acres in the reclaimed section along the Coast.

The main works upkeep in the area were :—

- 676 chains of canals;
- 2,061 chains of drains;
- 500 chains of bunds;
- 2 regulators;
- 4 syphons;
- 8 watergates.

Tasek Junjong Irrigation Scheme.—The comparatively small *padi* area of 350 acres of Tasek Junjong is in the south district of the Province in a valley close to the Kedah boundary. Originally irrigation was obtained by the diversion of the river into an embanked canal containing several temporary timber dams constructed by the local planters. As the river is very liable to rise suddenly in flood, these dams offered a serious obstruction and when they burst, much damage was caused to the banks and crops by the sudden rush of water.

In 1935, a sum of \$8,000 was entered in the Estimates for an irrigation scheme but investigation showed it advisable to amend the design of the headworks using a new type of gate specially suitable for the conditions at Tasek Junjong. A supplementary vote of \$4,600 was approved in 1936 making a total of \$12,600 available for the scheme.

During 1936, the headworks, a diversion channel to take the flood discharge, nearly a mile of new irrigation channel and four concrete drops have been constructed. In addition, 1½ miles of the original irrigation channels incorporated in the new scheme have been regraded and improved to conform with the new work.

It is expected that full irrigation will be given from the new works in the coming season.

Muda Bund.—The Muda Bund protects the agricultural areas north of the Prai River from flooding by the Muda River. There was no serious flood in the Muda River during the year.

Surveys were in progress throughout the year for the preparation of an extensive scheme to strengthen the whole of the bund from the Kedah boundary to the sea at an estimated cost of \$165,000.

Penang Island.—The most important works carried out by the Department on Penang Island are in the Sungei Pinang and Sungei Burong areas.

Sungei Pinang Area.—During 1936, 4 miles of coastal bund and a large water-gate were constructed. The bund provides protection from sea water and an additional area of 260 acres previously inundated by sea water will be available for *padi*. The area comprising 1,450 acres is irrigated by a canal constructed some 15 years ago with an intake on the Sungei Pinang which, in the great landslide of November 1932, was buried in 6 feet of sand.

During the years 1935–36, a new intake has been completed and the canal regraded. The new intake was in commission throughout the season and an adequate supply of water was available at the lower end of the canal for the first time since its construction. The new intake and reconstructed canal also served for the first time the lands north of Jalan Kuala Sungei Pinang which were previously served by a seasonal dam in the Sungei Pinang and which obstructed drainage.

The total expenditure for the two years to the end of 1936 on these works was \$17,473.

The most severe damage caused by the torrential flood of 1932 was the overwhelming of 120 acres of agricultural land and *kampung* land in 3 feet of sand brought down by the river which became completely silted up.

During the past three years the work of restoring the channel of the Sungei Pinang by training has been in hand and at the end of 1936 a total of \$3,239 has been spent out of the original provision of \$7,000 for this work.

Sungei Burong Area.—An irrigation scheme was completed in this area in 1935 and in 1936 a sum of \$1,171 was spent in constructing a syphon under the main road to lead the water to the western portion of the area.

The following table is of interest as showing the extent of the employment of local Malay labour on drainage and irrigation works in the Settlement and which must have been a source of considerable help to the peasant during the slump when there were always men waiting for work.

Year	Total No. of names on check roll for year	Average No. of names per month	Maximum No. of names in any month	Total amount paid in wages for year
				\$
1933 ...	873	87	104	3,970
1934 ...	3,108	259	403	26,611
1935 ...	3,737	311	533	33,810
1936 ...	4,876	406	737	43,396

Malacca Settlement.—In Malacca, 32,053 acres were planted with *padi* during the 1935–36 season producing an average yield of 406 gantangs per acre.

Very heavy rain was experienced over the whole of the Settlement during October and severe flooding occurred on almost all the *sawahs*. Fortunately, nearly all the *padi* was too advanced to be damaged, and it is estimated that only some 300 acres in the whole Settlement were really affected.

The following have been declared irrigation areas under Ordinance 38 of 1934 :—

				<i>Acres of Existing and Potential Padi Areas</i>	
Malacca River Valley—	Bachang	...	...	1,480	
	Tanjong Minyak	...	...	2,700	
	Sungei Putat	...	...	960	
Chohong	...	...	...	430	
Parit China	...	...	...	2,000	

Bachang Area.—This erstwhile swamp of nearly 1,500 acres which has been made fit for padi cultivation is slowly but steadily being taken up, 388 acres having been alienated at the end of the year.

Tanjong Minyak Area.—In the adjoining area of Tanjong Minyak of which all but 300 acres have been rendered fit for cultivation, the irrigation works functioned satisfactorily throughout the year. Since the completion of the irrigation scheme in 1933, better distribution of the water has been obtained by additional canals and better drainage, which has brought in a further 270 acres in the mukim of Bukit Rambai. There is a steady demand for land, the increase in area of alienated land since the provision of irrigation amounting to 280 acres.

During the year, a sum of \$7,200 was spent in repairs to damage to the headworks caused by the heavy flood which occurred in July, 1935.

Sungei Putat Area.—The Sungei Putat Irrigation Scheme is the second largest irrigation scheme undertaken by the Department in Malacca and the result of the irrigation service undertaken in 1934 and 1935 has been to benefit 960 acres of land of which 510 were planted with *padi* previously.

Parit China Area.—The controlled drainage scheme at Parit China embracing some 2,500 acres of land situated in the mukims of Padang Temu, Ujong Pasir, Semabok, Bukit Piatu, Bukit Bharu and Bukit Katil, functioned satisfactorily throughout the year and the crop obtained shows an average of 379 gantangs per acre. There is a steady demand for land and an additional 210 acres have been alienated since the scheme was completed.

Chohong Area.—The scheme, completed in 1933 at a cost of \$9,145 was for the improvement of existing *sawahs* and did not bring in any fresh areas. The total cultivable area is 430 acres of which 330 acres are at present planted with *padi*.

Each year since the work was completed water for irrigation has been supplied during the whole planting season. This year planting was rather late, but in spite of this, yields well up to the average are expected.

In the Merlimau Forest Reserve, digging of a drain 2 miles long has resulted in 450 acres of erstwhile swamp being made suitable partly for padi and partly for general cultivation. On the completion of the drain in July 1935, land was taken up by 81 settlers who concentrated chiefly on their land for general cultivation, only 15 acres of *sawah* being planted that year. In 1936, however, a further 40 acres of *sawah* have been planted and a good crop is anticipated.

An item of \$60,000 has been entered in the 1937 Budget for the provision of a controlled drainage scheme at Duyong.

The scheme comprises the construction of a tidal control gate about half a mile upstream of the Singapore Road, and the deepening, widening

and bunding of $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles of the river above the new gate. The complete scheme, estimated to cost \$85,000, will improve some 1,665 acres of existing *sawah* which has not at present adequate drainage and will provide improved drainage for 1,980 acres of jungle swamp for the cultivation of *padi*.

During the year a scheme has been prepared and an item of \$37,000 has been entered in the 1937 Budget Proposals for permanent irrigation service to 1,480 acres of *sawah* in the Jasin District between Kemendore and Chin Chin.

The 12-inch pump at Merlimau, which was installed in 1935 to augment the water supply to 200 acres of *sawah* previously dependent on rainfall, was required to operate on 32 days during last season. In past years when the rainfall has been inadequate, the yield fell to as low as 53 gantangs per acre as compared with the yield this last season of 573 gantangs per acre.

Malacca River Conservancy.—Due to various causes, chiefly the clearing of natural vegetation in its catchment area, the Malacca River has deteriorated and it was estimated that of 7,059 acres of potential *sawah* in the valley of the Malacca River only 920 acres were planted each season and these were liable, at least in part, to be damaged by flood. A scheme estimated to cost \$200,000 for the dredging from the river of the accumulation of coarse silt above Malim has been in hand since 1935.

The scheme aims at lowering the normal water level by $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet at Durian Tunggal effecting a general improvement of the drainage of the whole valley between Sungei Malim and Belimbing. The dredging is being carried out by means of a mechanical excavator mounted on a steel pontoon and it is estimated the work will take five years to complete.

Dredging commenced in December 1935 and during the year the machine has excavated 66,090 cubic yards measured after consolidation.

CHAPTER XIII

Justice, Police, Prisons and Reformatories

A.—JUSTICE

The Courts Ordinance (*Chapter 10*) provides for the following Courts for the administration of Civil and Criminal law—

- (a) The Supreme Court;
- (b) District Courts;
- (c) Police Courts;
- (d) Coroners' Courts.

In addition to these a Court of Criminal Appeal, to hear appeals from convictions had in trials at assizes, was created under the provisions of an Ordinance passed in 1931 which was brought into force on 1st September, 1934.

The Supreme Court is composed of the Chief Justice and three or more Puisne Judges. It is a Court of Record, and consists of—

- (a) the High Court which exercises original criminal and civil jurisdiction, and appellate criminal and civil jurisdiction in cases tried in District and Police Courts; and
- (b) the Court of Appeal which exercises appellate civil jurisdiction in cases tried in the High Court.

An appeal may lie from the Court of Appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

Criminal trials at Assizes are held before a Judge sitting with a jury of seven persons.

A District Court, presided over by a District Judge and having both civil and criminal jurisdiction is constituted in each of the two Settlements of Malacca and Labuan. In Singapore, Penang and Province Wellesley, however, where the work of the courts is much heavier, there are two District Courts, one for civil and the other for criminal cases. The civil jurisdiction of a District Court is limited to suits involving not more than \$500, when a District Judge presides and \$100 when an Assistant District Judge presides.

Police Courts exist in varying numbers in each Settlement, the Governor having power to constitute as many Police Courts in each Settlement as he thinks fit. The jurisdiction of the Police Courts is, in the main, criminal, and is regulated by the Criminal Procedure Code, but certain additional powers and duties are conferred upon them by other Ordinances.

Coroners' Courts exist in each Settlement; a Coroner is appointed by the Governor either for the whole Settlement or for a district thereof.

The Courts Ordinance also provides for the appointment of Justices of the Peace. Justices of the Peace are not Courts and have no power to try cases.

The Criminal Procedure of the Colony is governed by the Criminal Procedure Code while Civil Procedure is governed by Rules of Court made under the Courts Ordinance. Civil Procedure in District Courts is governed by certain portions of the Civil Procedure Code which was repealed by the Courts Ordinance with a proviso that the provisions of the said Code relating to proceedings in the District Courts shall continue to apply to such proceedings until superseded by District Court Rules which may be, but have not yet been, made under the Courts Ordinance.

B.—POLICE

(i).—ORGANISATION

The Straits Settlements Police Force is organised on a territorial basis. Each Settlement is in the charge of a Chief Police Officer, whose command is divided into a number of territorial divisions and departmental branches superintended, in most cases, by gazetted officers. In Penang and Malacca, the Chief Police Officer is responsible directly to the Inspector-General for the whole of the Police arrangements of the Settlement. In Singapore the Chief Police Officer performs similar duties, but in addition there are the following independent branches :—

- (a) The Special Branch which is almost wholly absorbed in work of a political kind and is not concerned with the investigation of any crime that is not of a political or subversive nature. This branch is the central investigating and recording machine for the Colony in all matters of the type with which it is designed to deal and in Settlements other than Singapore operates largely through the local Chief Police Officers and the Detective Branches.
- (b) The Depôt at which recruits for the Settlements of Singapore, Penang and Malacca are concentrated. The Commandant of the Depôt is responsible directly to the Inspector-General for

recruiting men for the uniformed branch of the Malay, Indian and Chinese Contingent in Singapore and for all training schemes. The Chief Police Officers in Penang and Malacca select their own recruits and each Chief Police Officer selects his own plain clothes men.

(c) The Financial Branch.

Working in direct liaison with the Police are the Deputy Public Prosecutors in Singapore and Penang, officers of the Attorney-General's department who are in immediate charge of the Police prosecuting staffs in the lower criminal courts. The Deputy Public Prosecutor at Singapore includes the Settlement of Malacca in his jurisdiction.

(ii).—CRIME

Seizable offences, after regularly decreasing in number during the years 1930 to 1934, shewed a pronounced increase in 1935, when 5,538 reports were admitted: this increase was repeated during the current year, when 5,731 admitted reports were recorded, Singapore and Penang accounting for the higher figure. No alarm need be occasioned by these increases, however, as crime during the slump years reached an abnormally low level, while the present day figure is well below the pre-slump average.

Arrests were effected in 2,699 cases and convictions obtained in 2,132 of them, while at the end of the year 249 cases were awaiting disposal.

Outstanding variations between 1935 and 1936 seizable crime figures occur in the case of murders, which rose from 21 to 33; attempted murders, which decreased from 16 to 5; robberies of all kinds, which fell from 95 to 67; serious cases of causing hurt, rising from 372 to 445; thefts and thefts in dwellings combined, which increased by 385 to a total of 2,987; house-breaking and thefts which at 646 shewed a rise of 24%; and illicit possession and concealment of arms and explosives which almost doubled themselves, the figures being 26 and 51.

Admitted reports of non-seizable offences fell to 109,185 from the 1935 figure of 113,004. Figures under this heading vary from year to year in the several Settlements in a most erratic manner, which is usually ascribable to outbursts of Police activity in dealing with offences under the Minor Offences, Municipal, Traffic Regulations, Merchant shipping and similar ordinances.

Of the large number of non-seizable offences reported, the great majority fall within the provisions of the half-a-dozen ordinances named below, the numbers of reports dealt with being shewn:—

	1935	1936
Chandu Revenue	1,175	2,423
Merchant Shipping	5,619	7,235
Municipal	47,814	43,479
Traction Engines and Motor Cars ...	8,037	8,826
Traffic Regulations	13,420	11,523
Minor Offences	17,937	16,426

Under the less prominent headings, there was a decrease from 64 to 38 in non-seizable forgeries and a remarkable increase in cases under the Weights and Measures Ordinance, the figures being 332 and 865.

The total value of property reported lost as the result of criminal activities was \$610,597.33, of which property valued at \$94,331.10 was recovered by the Police. More than 50% of the total was lost as the result of robberies and criminal breach of trust.

Illegal secret societies provided the usual quantum of petty quarrels and fights but on the whole conditions were quiet. The Teo Chiu groups were at peace with each other, as were the Hokkien, but they clashed with each other and with the Cantonese. The last named have for a number of years been responsible for the majority of violent crimes due to society and gang activity; figures are given below :—

	1933	1934	1935	1936
Armed Gang Robbery ...	6	2	5	2
Gang Robbery ...	1	—	—	—
Armed Robbery ...	23	10	14	5
Simple Robbery ...	15	1	2	1

Inter-gang feuds were responsible for three murders and one case of voluntarily causing grievous hurt with a dangerous weapon. In 1935 the figures were two murders and one attempted murder. Firearms were used on two occasions during 1936 as compared with nine during the previous year.

The year produced no really outstanding crimes.

Detective 35, Mohamed Ali, was stabbed to death by members of a communist "protection squad" which was operating to guard the activities of slogan writers in their endeavours to incite to lawlessness Municipal Tamil coolies who were on strike. The culprits are known, but, despite the offer of a substantial reward for information, sufficient evidence is not forthcoming to bring them to book.

A serious case of acid throwing occurred in Malacca in which a whole family consisting of husband, wife and two young children were the victims. The husband and one child succumbed to their injuries.

Singapore and Penang were free from cases of arson, but four cases of suspected arson occurred in Malacca, all involving properties of small value. Revenge was the governing factor in all of them.

A new and ingenious method of counterfeiting local currency was brought to light when a very up-to-date and complete plant was seized in Singapore. The method employed was to smooth the reverse sides of quarter and half cent copper coins, sweat silver foil on to them and then die stamp them to represent 10 and 20 cent pieces. All concerned were arrested and convicted.

In December, 1935, a local bank despatched 70,000 guilders to Batavia made up in three parcels. On arrival it was found that one of the parcels, which should have contained 41,085 guilders, consisted of torn pages of the Malayan Directory. Early in the course of investigation suspicion fell on a clerk employed in the bank, but sufficient evidence was not forthcoming to enable action to be taken. Patient enquiries continued: in July, 1936, the suspect was arrested and eventually pleaded guilty to the theft. The modus operandi employed was the substitution of a dummy parcel.

C.—PRISONS

At the beginning of the year, there were 961 prisoners in the five prisons of the Colony (Singapore, Penang, Malacca, Labuan and Christmas Island). Admissions during the year numbered 15,633, as compared with 13,828 during 1935 and 15,634 prisoners were discharged, leaving 960 in the prisons at the end of the year. There were 82 vagrants in the Houses of Detention

at the beginning of the year, and during the year 841 more were admitted, but 814 vagrants were discharged leaving only 109 under detention when the year closed. The health of the prisoners was maintained in a satisfactory state throughout the year.

“Short-sentence” and “Revenue-grade” men are mainly employed at husk-beating and on fatigue duties. “Lower-grade” prisoners are usually employed on husk-beating during the first six months of their sentence but thereafter join the “Middle-grade” and “Upper-grade” prisoners in industrial labour such as printing, book-binding, tailoring, carpentry, washing, weaving, shoe-making or mat and basket-making. Cooks, orderlies, clerks and such are selected from among the upper-grade prisoners when possible. Remission of sentence may be earned by good behaviour by prisoners sentenced to penal servitude, rigorous imprisonment or simple imprisonment for terms of three months and over.

Juvenile offenders are kept separate from adult prisoners so far as accommodation will permit and, under Section 290 of the Criminal Procedure Code, the Courts may, in their discretion, release on probation any offender convicted of trivial offences.

The building of a new Convict Prison at Changi, 11½ miles from Singapore town, which was started in 1934, has been completed this year and was gazetted as a Prison on 24th December, 1936.

D.—REFORMATORIES

The Reformatory at Singapore, is the only institution in Malaya specially organised for the reception of juvenile offenders. It is under the control of the Director of Education and is not in any way connected with the Prisons Administration. Juvenile offenders and destitute male children between the ages of seven and sixteen are admitted. No boy is detained in it beyond the age of eighteen.

At the end of 1935 the inmates numbered 99. Forty-two were released and forty-seven admitted during 1936. At the end of 1936 there were 104 inmates.

Of the 47 boys admitted during the year, 31 were from the Straits Settlements, 13 from the Federated Malay States, one from the Unfederated Malay States and two from Sarawak. There were 26 Chinese, seven Malays, 13 Indians and one Eurasian. Forty-one were committed for criminal offences including fraudulent possession of property, housebreaking, cheating, voluntarily causing hurt and theft, there being 25 cases of the last mentioned offence. Of the remainder, five were committed for vagrancy and one as being uncontrollable.

The conduct of the boys was excellent and their health was very good. They were employed as carpenters, tailors, grass-cutters, gardeners, washermen, cooks, orderlies and general coolies. They were all taught Malay in Romanised script for 1½ hours daily, with the exception of 11 who had their education in English. Muslim boys were given religious instruction. The chief forms of exercise insisted upon or indulged in were physical drill, football, volley ball, cricket and boxing.

So far as was possible work was found on their release for boys who had no parents, relatives or friends to look after them, or arrangements were made for their adoption by respectable persons recommended by the Chinese Protectorate.

CHAPTER XIV

Legislation

Forty-one Ordinances were passed during the year 1936. Of these, two were Supply Ordinances, twenty-nine Amending Ordinances and the rest were new Ordinances.

The following are the more important—

- (1) The Silver Jubilee Fund (Singapore) Ordinance and the Silver Jubilee Fund (Singapore) (Amendment) Ordinance (Nos. 1 and 5) provide for the administration of a Fund raised partly by public subscription and partly by grants made by the Government of the Colony and by the Municipal Commissioners of Singapore. The Fund is to be devoted for the relief of distress among persons of all races, all creeds, all classes and all ages within the Settlement. The Fund was raised as a permanent Memorial of the Silver Jubilee of His late Majesty King George V.
- (2) The Penang and Province Wellesley Jubilee Fund (Amendment) Ordinance provides that both the Government and the Municipality should have power to nominate some of the General Committee as since the Penang and Province Wellesley Jubilee Fund Ordinance (Chapter 176) was passed the Government and the Municipal Commissioners have made considerable contributions to the Fund.
- (3) The Advocates and Solicitors (Amendment) Ordinance alters the procedure for hearing complaints of professional misconduct made against solicitors. The Ordinance provides that complaints shall be made in the first place to the Bar Committee. If the Bar Committee considers that there shall be formal investigation of such complaint the Committee shall apply to the Chief Justice to appoint a Disciplinary Committee which shall hear and investigate such complaint. If the Bar Committee does not consider that the complaint alleges facts constituting misconduct it shall on the request of the complainant give its reasons in writing and the complainant may apply to the Chief Justice to appoint Disciplinary Committee.
If after hearing and investigating such complaint the Disciplinary Committee is of opinion that due cause exists for disciplinary action under section 25 the Disciplinary Committee shall proceed to make application in accordance with section 26D.
- (4) The Traction Engines and Motor Cars (Amendment) Ordinance—A substantial portion of the revenue of the Colony is derived from a tax on petrol. The increasing use of heavy oil engines in motor vehicles threatens a serious loss to revenue. This Ordinance imposes a special tax on heavy oil engined vehicles with a view to preventing this loss.
- (5) The Rubber Regulation (Amendment) Ordinance creates a Rubber Fund common to all administrations in Malaya.

The Fund is to be devoted solely to paying the cost of rubber administration and for the benefit of the rubber industry generally.

- (6) The Tin and Tin-ore Restriction (Amendment) Ordinance.—The total amount of tin which may be exported from tin-ore won in the Colony is 57 tons in any one year. Fifty-seven tons of tin is the normal yield of 77 tons of tin-ore. This Ordinance makes it clear that there is no restriction on opening a new mine provided that the total amount of tin-ore won does not exceed the maximum of 77 tons in any one year.
- (7) The Revised Edition of the Laws (Annual Supplements) Ordinance.—The Annual Supplements for which this Ordinance provides will be in themselves revised editions of all Ordinances passed after the date up to which the Revised Edition of the Laws had been brought. The Revised Edition published in September, 1936, contained the local Ordinances amended to 31st December, 1935. The Annual Supplement for 1936 will be the Ordinance for that year. The Annual Supplement for 1937 will be the Ordinances for 1936 and 1937 any two Ordinances amending the same principal Ordinance being consolidated.
- Thus if an Ordinance is enacted in 1936 which is amended in 1937 and again amended in 1938 and further amended in 1939, the Annual Supplement published in 1940 will contain one consolidated Ordinance which will be the Ordinance as enacted in 1936 incorporating all the amendments made respectively in 1937, 1938 and 1939.
- (8) The Cattle Protection Ordinance is intended to provide for the preservation of female buffaloes. There has been considerable slaughter of female buffaloes in Malacca as in some other parts of Malaya, and grave fears are entertained that the quantity and quality of buffaloes will become seriously impaired. The Ordinance forbids, except under permit, the slaughter and export of these animals.
- (9) The Penal Code (Amendment) Ordinance conforms with the Convention done at Geneva on the 20th day of April, 1929 for the punishments imposed for offences in respect of domestic and foreign currency.
- (10) The Registration (Amendment) Ordinance enacts a provision wherein the Ordinance can at any time be suspended. The principal Ordinance as passed is one which is, like other Ordinances in continual operation, which is considered unnecessary.
- (11) The Youthful Offenders' Reception (Amendment) Ordinance.—As Sarawak has not yet got a Reformatory School of its own this Ordinance enables youthful offenders from Sarawak to be removed to a Reformatory School in the Colony.
- (12) The Electric Lamp and Electric Appliances Ordinance. This Ordinance requires that electric lamp bulbs shall be of a certain standard and shall have stamped upon them particulars which will indicate to the purchaser the type of goods he is buying and prohibits the sale of lampholders and switches which are not adequately insulated.

It has been found that lamps of an inferior type and fittings which are dangerous to the user are on sale in the Straits Settlements and this Ordinance is designed to safeguard the public against those abuses.

- (13) The Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Ordinance. The Navigation of small mechanically propelled trading craft in the ports of the Colony is a menace to the safety of life and property when such craft are not in charge of a competent helmsman or steersman with a knowledge of the rule of the road or sea. This Ordinance requires such craft to be provided with competent steersman, and, if they are over ten tons, with competent engineers.
- (14) The Federated Malay States (Title to Property) Ordinance.—This Ordinance vests in the High Commissioner for the Malay States the lands in the Colony held by the Chief Secretary to Government, F. M. S. as the latter office is vacant and it is proposed to abolish the post. The Ordinance also confers upon the High Commissioner the powers and privileges heretofore exercised by the Chief Secretary.
- (15) The Corporations Duty (Amendment) Ordinance imposes a duty in lieu of estate duty upon property which, if held by an individual would be liable to estate duty. The Ordinance is so amended as to bring it into accord with the English Act by imposing duty on the annual value of property, out of which no income or profit arises.
- (16) The Tea Control Ordinance provides for the control over the production of tea by restricting, planting and prohibiting the export of tea seed.
- (17) The Post Office Savings Bank Ordinance. Prior to the enactment of this Ordinance the Post Office Savings Bank law was comprised in certain sections of the Post Office Ordinance (Chapter 71). It is desired to separate the Savings Bank law from other Post Office law as has already been done in the Federated Malay States.

This Ordinance follows closely a model Ordinance prepared by the Secretary of State; and, in order to secure throughout the Malayan Postal Union as close a degree as possible of uniformity in law and procedure in this matter, a parallel Ordinance has been passed in the Federated Malay States.

- (18) The Stamp (Amendment) Ordinance. The totalisator or pari-mutuel and sweepstake of racing clubs have been taxed for some time. The present Ordinance proposes a similar tax on sweepstakes conducted by any other club, association or society.

The Ordinance also permits the Commissioner to receive the duty in cash instead of in adhesive stamps if he so desires.

CHAPTER XV

Public Finance and Taxation

The Revenue for the year 1936 amounted to \$35,124,137.43 which was \$1,622,373.43 more than the original estimate of \$33,501,764 and \$1,314,562.43 in excess of the revised estimate of \$33,809,575.

The Expenditure was \$33,398,912.22 being \$2,550,058.78 less than the original estimate.

The year's working resulted therefore in a surplus of \$1,725,225.21.

(i).—REVENUE

The Revenue was \$83,757.21 more than that of 1935. Details are shewn in the following table:—

Heads of Revenue	1935	1936	Increase	Decrease
	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
1. Port Harbour, Wharf and Light dues ..	2,494.98	2,467.74	..	27.24
2. Licences Excise and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified ..	23,367,218.55	22,727,578.73	..	639,639.82
3. Fees of Court or Office, payments for Specific Services and Reimbursements in Aid ..	1,390,589.75	1,448,173.51	57,583.76	..
4. Post & Telegraphs ..	2,200,135.16	2,353,111.02	152,975.86	..
5. Rents on Government Property ..	1,765,439.32	1,824,829.58	59,390.26	..
6. Interest ..	5,442,377.04	5,481,920.78	39,543.74	..
7. Miscellaneous Receipts ..	766,598.77	1,143,231.90	376,633.13	..
Total exclusive of Land Sales and Grants-in-Aid ..	34,934,853.57	34,981,313.26	686,126.75	639,667.06
8. Land Sales and Premiums on Grants ..	96,475.22	139,545.60	43,070.38	..
9. Grants-in-Aid Colonial Development Fund ..	9,051.43	3,278.57	..	5,772.86
Total Revenue ..	35,040,380.22	35,124,137.43	729,197.13	645,439.92

The decrease under the heading "Licences, Excise and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified" is chiefly due to decrease under the following sub-heads:—

	\$ c.
Liquors	141,853 53
Opium	380,227 84
Stamp Duties (Various Revenue Services) ...	38,948 59
Tobacco	76,974 79
	<u>638,004 75</u>

The increase in Fees of Court, etc., arises mainly from the following sub-heads:—

	\$ c.
Contribution by Rockefeller Foundation towards salaries of Professors of Biochemistry and Bacteriology	23,154 89
Survey Fees	17,514 74
Widows' and Orphans' Pensions, Contributions, Fines, etc., on account of	12,254 32
Reimbursement of Cost of Audit Various External Bodies (New item)	68,070 00
Cost of Printing Recoverable (New item) ...	5,635 70
Contribution by Malayan Establishment Office towards the cost of Audit (New item) ...	3,150 00
	<u>129,779 65</u>

There are decreases under the following sub-heads :—

		\$	c.
District and Police Courts including Marine	...	17,482	37
Contribution from Rubber Fund	...	56,370	23
Contribution by Federated Malay States on account of Joint Services	... ..	14,641	09
		<hr/>	
		88,493	69

The increase under Posts and Telegraphs is attributed to :—

		\$	c.
Money Orders and British Postal Orders	...	11,887	66
Sale of Stamps	... ..	130,174	37
Miscellaneous	... ..	23,416	40
		<hr/>	
		165,478	43

There is a decrease under the sub-head :—

		\$	c.
Telegrams	... ..	21,393	29

The increase under Rents, etc., is distributed between :—

		\$	c.
Lands	... ..	30,639	38
Telok Ayer Reclamation	... ..	30,401	00
		<hr/>	
		61,040	38

The increase under Interest is due to the following sub-heads :—

		\$	c.
Interest on Loans and Advances	... ..	211,057	38
Interest on Opium Revenue Replacement Fund	...	13,180	67
		<hr/>	
		224,238	05

The following items under this head shew decreases :—

		\$	c.
Interest on Bank account	... ..	17,263	56
Interest on Opium Purchase Money Outstanding	...	164,817	00
		<hr/>	
		182,080	56

The increase under Miscellaneous Receipts is apportionable as follows :—

		\$	c.
Court Deposits unclaimed	... ..	19,573	17
Overpayments Recovered	... ..	50,106	93
Royalty on Phosphate	... ..	17,382	96
Retrocession of the Dindings to Perak	...	86,850	00
Investments Adjustment Account (Revaluation of Investments)	... ..	92,241	03
Miscellaneous	... ..	106,836	58
		<hr/>	
		372,990	67

(ii).—EXPENDITURE

Particulars of Expenditure are set out below :—

Head of Expenditure	1935	1936	Increase	Decrease
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1. Charge on account of Public Debt	37,083.40	37,083.40	..	..
2. Pensions, Retired Allowances and Gratuities, etc. ..	2,380,901.86	2,418,746.72	37,844.86	..
3. Charitable Allowances ..	70,793.78	68,063.80	..	2,729.98
4. The Governor ..	114,283.51	131,780.43	17,496.92	..
5. Malayan Civil Service ..	523,571.33	518,366.21	..	5,205.12
6. Straits Settlements Civil Service	15,022.42	8,390.96	..	6,631.46
7. General Clerical Service ..	1,154,074.50	1,181,967.24	27,892.74	..
8. Colonial Secretary, Resident Councillors and Residents ..	120,741.70	119,672.99	..	1,068.71
9. Secretary to High Commissioner	10,947.10	11,344.08	396.98	..
10. Malayan Establishment Office *	10.25	..	..	* 10.25
11. Agricultural Department ..	83,307.42	84,642.31	1,334.89	..
12. Analyst	49,114.49	53,267.12	4,152.63	..
13. Audit	41,042.74	110,807.17	69,764.43	..
14. Chinese Secretariat ..	67,711.31	66,163.94	..	1,547.37
15. Co-operative Societies ..	26,009.87	26,353.13	343.26	..
16. Drainage and Irrigation ..	312,613.89	265,421.82	..	47,192.07
17. Education	2,002,648.12	2,170,691.93	168,043.81	..
18. Excise Department ..	1,137,021.39	1,113,841.73	..	23,179.66
19. Fisheries	34,267.61	77,081.09	42,813.48	..
20. Forests	60,655.46	56,263.62	..	4,391.84
21. Gardens, Botanical ..	118,834.42	123,118.50	4,284.08	..
22. Immigration, and Passports ..	56,450.58	61,093.88	4,643.30	..
23. Labour Department ..	18,668.17	29,311.80	10,643.63	..
24. Land and District Offices ..	249,596.73	232,794.58	..	16,802.15
25. Legal	407,717.77	407,769.15	51.38	..
26. Marine	543,219.01	492,833.74	..	50,385.27
27. Marine Surveys	77,140.08	67,899.54	..	9,240.54
28. Medical	369,730.95	407,299.24	37,568.29	..
29. Medical, Health Branch ..	539,752.81	560,146.25	20,393.44	..
30. Medical, Social Hygiene Branch	91,658.13	102,822.15	11,164.02	..
31. Medical, Hospitals and Dispensaries	2,241,750.78	2,310,389.85	68,639.07	..
32. Military Expenditure—				
I. Defence Contribution ..	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	..	..
II. Local Forces ..	431,002.59	435,074.98	4,072.39	..
33. Miscellaneous Services ..	6,285,218.90	3,921,890.15	..	2,363,328.75
34. Museum and Library, Raffles ..	49,448.97	44,324.63	..	5,124.34
35. Police	2,779,143.86	2,868,294.47	89,150.61	..
36. Post Office	1,723,651.80	1,821,303.88	97,652.08	..
37. Printing Office	218,092.94	243,218.21	25,125.27	..
38. Prisons	431,971.24	423,570.92	..	8,400.32
39. Public Works Department ..	632,864.57	655,805.94	22,941.37	..
40. Public Works, Recurrent Expenditure	1,140,701.32	1,110,294.02	..	30,407.30
41. Public Works, Extraordinary	3,443,384.91	3,881,930.61	438,545.70	..
42. Statistics	95,987.39	80,513.43	..	15,473.96
43. Survey Department ..	364,577.62	361,316.43	..	3,261.19
44. Transport	18,318.69	18,473.76	155.07	..
45. Treasury	128,943.32	150,370.18	21,426.86	..
46. Veterinary	60,081.50	64,339.52	4,258.02	..
47. Grants-in-Aid Colonial Development Fund	4,929.55	2,762.72	..	2,166.83
TOTAL ..	34,764,640.25	33,398,912.22	1,230,798.58	2,596,526.61

* Expenditure Credit

The increase in "Pensions, Retired Allowances, Gratuities, etc.", is due to increased provisions in the votes "Superannuation Allowances Police Pensions", "Gratuities to Officers not entitled to pension", "Special Pension privileges beyond the scope of the Pension Law", "Pension outside the provision of the Pensions Ordinance" and "Allowances to the Descendants of the late Sultan Hussein".

The increase under "Governor" is mainly due to the purchase of a Ford Truck, the purchase of a Siddeley Special Limousine and the purchase of Furnishings, etc.

The decrease in "Malayan Civil Service" is due to vacancies and deletions.

The decrease in "Straits Settlements Civil Service" is due to the transfer of one member to the post of Assistant District Officer, Butterworth and the appointment of two probationers late in the year.

The increase in "General Clerical Service" is due to the incidence of increments and to a number of new appointments approved during the year.

The increase under "Government Analyst" is mainly due to the difference of duty salaries provided for duty posts, normal increments to staff, two new additional appointments and the purchase of a Refrigerator under Special Expenditure.

The increase under "Audit" is mainly due to the contribution from the Malayan Establishment Office and the reimbursements by various External Bodies, Straits Settlements, in respect of the cost of audit, being credited to Revenue instead of expenditure credits.

The decrease under "Drainage and Irrigation" is mainly due to the completion of certain major works under special expenditure in 1935, for which no provision appears in the 1936 Estimates.

The increase under "Education" is due to increments, the filling of vacancies and an increase in the Grants-in-Aid.

The decrease under "Excise" is mainly due to smaller quantities of materials being purchased in 1936 on account of lower rate of production of bulk and packed chandu.

The increase under "Fisheries" is primarily due to the purchase of the brine freezing vessel, expenditure of docking, fuel, stores, repairs, etc. and to more research and investigation work being carried out.

The decrease under "Forests" is mainly due to the deletion in the 1936 Estimates on account of the retrocession of the Dindings to the Perak Government.

The increase under "Gardens, Botanical" is mainly due to the transfer of Vote "Upkeep of Residency Grounds (P)" to the Gardens in 1936 and to an increase in the Special Expenditure Vote.

The increase under "Immigration and Passports" is due to annual increments of staff and to an increase in the vote "Reimbursement of Passport Revenue to Immigration Fund".

The increase in the "Labour Department" is principally due to expenditure under the heading "Repatriation of decrepit and unemployed Indian Immigrants" and to the fact that the Malayalam Clerk of Penang Office was transferred to the Straits Settlements Establishment from 1st January, 1936.

The decrease under "Land and District Offices" is partly due to the deletion of the Dindings from the 1936 Estimates on account of the retrocession to the Perak Government and also to the decrease in the special expenditure vote "Resettlement M."

The decrease under "Marine" is mainly due to the fact that there was less Special Expenditure in 1936 as compared with 1935.

The decrease under "Marine Surveys" is mainly due to the leave salaries of European Officers being met from Malayan Establishment Funds.

The increases under "Medical General" Health Branch, Social Hygiene Branch, Hospitals and Dispensaries are mainly due to increases in the Personal Emoluments and other charges votes.

The increase under "Local Forces Military Expenditure" is mainly due to additional expenditure on the Straits Settlements Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve in 1936.

H.M.S. "Laburnam" was put into commission only in June 1935 and therefore only seven months expenditure was included in the figures for 1935.

The decrease under "Miscellaneous Services" is mainly due to the following large payments being made in 1935 :—

	\$	c.
Cost of acquisition of the site of Europe Hotel ...	1,315,000	00
Government Contribution to Singapore and Penang Jubilee Fund ...	1,050,000	00

The decrease under "Museum and Library, Raffles" is due to an European Officer being on leave.

The increase under "Police" is mainly due to an increase in the personnel, and also in the Other Charges and Special Expenditure votes.

The increase under "Post Office" is mainly due to normal increments in Personal Emoluments and to Special Expenditure on the following votes :—

- (i) New Carrier System between Kuala Lumpur and Singapore Colony Share.
- (ii) Provision of 8-Channel Voice Frequency Telegraph Equipment.
- (iii) Telephone and Telegraph Equipments.

The increase under "Printing Office" is mainly due to the Special Expenditure "Purchase of Machinery, Materials, etc." for printing the Straits Settlements Laws.

The decrease under "Prisons" is mainly due to vacancies on the European Warders Establishment not being filled.

The increase under "Public Works Department" is mainly due to the additional appointments of Aviation Officer, Senior Assistant Architect and Quantity Surveyor being made in 1936.

The decrease under "Public Works Recurrent Expenditure" is mainly due to the costs of all dredging works in the Seaplane channel being charged to the Singapore Aerodrome Vote under Public Works Extraordinary.

The increase under "Public Works Extraordinary" is due to the return to better times and to a larger programme of Public Works being authorised and carried out.

The decrease under "Statistics" is mainly due to less expenditure in 1936 as compared with the 1935 Special Expenditure votes.

The increase under "Treasury" is mainly due to the appointment of a Collector of Estate Duty and to the filling of the appointments of Office Assistant in Penang and Malacca.

The increase under "Veterinary" is mainly due to the creation of new appointments in Singapore and Malacca in 1936.

(iii)—ASSETS AND

The Assets and Liabilities of the Colony on the 31st December, 1936

		\$	c.	\$	c.
<i>Liabilities</i>					
Deposits:—					
Accountant-General (Court)	..	..	2,135,711.42		
Accountant-General (Other)	..	..	2,200,178.00		
Bankruptcy	..	..	853,349.13		
Mercantile Marine Fund	..	..	765,890.16		
Police Reward Fund	..	..	2,787.83		
Savings Certificates Fund	..	..	55,120.00		
Companies Liquidation Account	..	..	244,476.86		
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	..	..	85,721.15		
Miscellaneous Singapore (including Labuan and Christmas Island)	..	..	2,865,191.65		
Miscellaneous Penang and Districts	..	..	440,691.27		
Miscellaneous Malacca and Districts	..	..	88,929.75		
F.M.S. Agency	..	..	59,063.60		
				9,797,116.82	
Drafts and Remittances	..	..	..	36,282.12	
Suspense Account	{ Coins for reminting, etc. Interest, Currency Commissioners Other items		2,188,087.67		
			..		
			6,312,951.72		
				8,501,039.39	
Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund	..	..	..	61,160,386.42	
Surplus	..	..	..	72,954,595.82	
Total	..	..	..	152,449,414.57	

The Surplus on 31st December, 1936, amounted to \$72,954,595.82 of which approximately \$51.47 millions were liquid. Against this, commitments on loans already approved to public bodies in the Colony and to other administrations amounted to \$5,888,875 and contingent liabilities to public bodies amounting to \$5,881,252. In addition the estimated deficit on the Budget for 1937 amounting to \$2,928,344 and further commitments amounting to \$4,165,532 had to be met. The total commitments and contingent liabilities on 1st January, 1937, against the Surplus thus amounted to \$18,864,003.

LIABILITIES

were as follows :—

				\$ c.		\$ c.	
Assets							
Cash:—							
		\$	c.				
Cash in Treasuries		4,558,232.93					
Cash in Banks		6,000,146.78					
Cash with Crown Agents		48,460.96					
				10,606,840.67			
Cash held in Kuala Lumpur	..	..	..	66,000.00			
Cash in Transit	..	..	..	88,149.01			
Joint Colonial Fund (Crown Agents)	..	..	..	1,971,428.57			
Fixed deposits (Colony)	..	..	..	4,923,000.00			
Fixed deposits (Accountant-General)	..	..	..	508,900.00			
						18,164,318.25	
Suspense Account Other items	..	..	..	..		7,446,245.93	
Suspense Stores Account, P.W.D.	..	..	..	..		132,195.13	
Investments (Surplus Funds):—							
Sterling Securities	..	..	..	37,474,733.12			
Dollar and Rupee Securities	..	..	..	915,375.05			
						38,390,108.17	
Investments (Specific Funds):—							
Accountant-General (Court)	..	..	..	919,242.12			
Accountant-General (Other)	..	..	..	1,691,100.00			
Bankruptcy	..	..	..	710,445.52			
Mercantile Marine Fund	..	..	..	737,024.46			
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	..	..	..	73,865.00			
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	1,535,686.41			
						5,667,363.51	
Investments Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund				..		61,160,386.42	
Advances							
Boards:—							
Education	..	..	..	8,500.55			
Hospital	..	..	..	733.07			
Building Loans	..	..	..	609,735.79			
Other Governments	..	..	..	37,987.58			
Postal Stores	..	..	..	300,000.00			
Sinking Fund, Singapore Harbour Board	..	..	..	1,823,921.08			
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	331,970.00			
						3,112,848.07	
Imprests	..	..	..	..		2,228.93	
Loans:—							
		\$	c.				
Municipality, Singapore		190,629.65					
Municipality, Penang		100,000.00					
Municipality, Malacca		317,373.47					
				608,003.12			
Kelantan Government	..	..	..	5,005,683.98			
Trengganu Government	..	..	..	3,500,000.00			
Singapore Harbour Board	..	..	..	6,477,131.30			
Penang Harbour Board	..	..	..	2,614,457.30			
Mohamedan and Hindu Endowment Board, Penang	..	..	..	51,750.00			
Tanglin School at Cameron Highlands	..	..	..	13,300.00			
Penang Sports Club	..	..	..	25,000.00			
S.S. War Service Land Grants Scheme	..	..	..	78,394.46			
						18,373,720.16	
Total				..		152,449,414.57	

(iv).—PUBLIC DEBT

The indebtedness of the Colony in respect of the loan raised by the issue of 3½% Straits Settlements Inscribed Stock under the provision of Ordinance No. 98 (Loan) amounted on the 31st December, 1936 to £6,913,352 of which the equivalent in local currency is \$59,257,302.

The expenditure upon Services in respect of which this loan was raised is as follows:—

				\$
Singapore Harbour Board	...	...	...	47,720,526
Penang Harbour Board	...	...	...	2,093,974
Municipal Commissioners, Singapore	...	...	...	4,484,460
Municipal Commissioners, Penang	...	...	...	1,250,000
Government Harbour Works	...	...	...	320,137
				<hr/>
				55,869,097
Loan Extension and cost of conversion (1907)				
less interest received	...	...	...	3,388,205
				<hr/>
				59,257,302
				<hr/>

The charge on account of interest on, and expenses of this loan was \$2,085,817 in 1936. This charge is, however, borne by the Singapore Harbour Board and other bodies to whom portions of the loan have been allotted. The value of the Investments of the Sinking Fund of this loan on the 31st December, 1936 was \$23,136,593.

In August it was decided to redeem this loan on 15th May, 1937 and with this object in view a local loan of \$30,000,000 bearing 3% interest redeemable on 15th April, 1972 was issued on 15th October. The issue was oversubscribed to the extent of over \$1 million. The total cost of the issue including brokerage, management and redemption amounted to \$75,000 *i.e.* ¼ of one per cent. The loan will be managed by the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.

The proceeds of the conversion loan will be allocated entirely to the Singapore and Penang Harbour Boards which will bear all charges for interest and Sinking Fund. The Municipalities agreed to pay off the balance of their shares of the 3½% loan after deducting the Sinking Fund and have then no interest in the conversion loan.

The Straits Settlements 6% Inscribed Stock 1936 to 1951 amounting to \$44,185,714.29 (£5,155,000) was redeemed from 1st December, 1936 on the issue of the Federated Malay States 3% 1956/1966 Local Loan of \$15,000,000.

(v).—TAXATION

Revenue from taxation is mainly derived from duties on liquors, tobacco and petroleum imported into and consumed in the Colony, and from the profits on the Government opium monopoly. The other main items are Stamp Duties, Estate Duties and Pawnbrokers' Licenses which are issued to successful tenderers on payment of a monthly rent for a period of three years.

The yield from direct taxation is small and all of it obtained from Licenses.

The total revenue under the main head of Duties, Taxes and Licenses for the year 1936 was \$22,727,578.73 forming the greater portion of the

Colony's Revenue and the yields under the principal items were as follows :—

				\$	c.
Liquor Duties	...	...	...	3,231,933	17
Opium Revenue	...	...	...	8,360,384	81
Pawnbrokers' Licenses	...	...	...	719,932	00
Petroleum Revenue	...	...	...	3,191,198	51
Stamp Duties (Various Revenue Services)	...	...	...	925,013	40
Estate Duties	...	...	...	1,230,169	39
Tobacco Duties	...	...	...	4,269,996	46

The only fiscal measures approximating to a customs' Tariff is the imposition of duties on Liquors, Tobacco and Petroleum imported into and consumed in the Colony. Excise revenue is comprised principally of the revenue from the Opium Monopoly and from duties on intoxicating liquors manufactured in the Colony. In the latter case the duties are seven-tenths of the amounts prescribed for imported liquors of a similar brand. The only liquor manufactured locally which is subject to this duty is samsu and beer. In addition the Government itself controls most of the manufacture and sale of toddy, but the revenue is so far unimportant.

Stamp duties are imposed on all documents required to be stamped under the provisions of the Stamp Ordinance 1929. The principal duties are :—

Agreement under hand only	...	...	...	25 cents.
Bill of Exchange including Promissory Note	...	...	...	5 cents for every \$100 or part thereof.
Cheque	...	...	...	4 cents.
Conveyance	...	...	...	\$1.50 for every \$250 or part thereof.
Mortgage	...	...	...	\$1 for every \$500 or part thereof.
Receipt	...	...	...	4 cents.

A Betting Tax was introduced with effect from 1st January, 1932 and the amount collected in 1936 was Singapore \$259,752.50 and Penang \$84,332.

CHAPTER XVI

Miscellaneous

A.—PRINCIPAL LANGUAGES

Malay, as well as being the language of the Malay inhabitants of the Colony, is also, in a modified form, the language spoken in the homes of many of the other settlers, particularly in Malacca.

Early Muslim traders, the Portuguese, the Dutch and the English have all used and spread it as a *lingua franca* so that it has become, in a much debased form, the language of the shop and the market for the Colony's cosmopolitan population. Signs are not lacking, however, that it is gradually being superseded by English as the language of commerce.

Malay, as well as the languages of such immigrants to the Straits Settlements as the Bugis from the Celebes, Sundanese, Madurese and Javanese, and the Minangkabau people of Sumatra, belongs to the western branch of the Austronesian family which covers an area from Formosa to New Zealand and from Madagascar to Easter Island. Even within this western branch, however, languages differ more widely than English from Dutch or French from Italian.

With Islam the Malays adopted the Persian form of the Arabic alphabet, but there is a growing literature in romanised script.

The Chinese languages spoken in the Straits Settlements are those of the districts in the South of China, principally in the Kwangtung and Fukien Provinces, from which the immigrant Chinese population is almost entirely drawn.

Figures based on the Census for 1931 shew the extent to which the various languages are spoken to be :—

Hokkien 43·2%; Cantonese, 21·4%; Tiu Chiu, 17·4%; Hakka (Kheh), 7·9%; Hailam, 5·4%; Hok Chhia, 1·5%; Hok Chiu, 1·3%; and other dialects, 1·9%.

Nine-tenths of the Indian population are Southern Indians practically all of whom speak one or other of the Dravidian languages, Tamil, Telugu, or Malayalam. Of these the vast majority (over 90%) speak Tamil.

The rest of the Indian population consists mainly of Northern Indians, whose principal languages are Punjabi, Bengali and Hindustani. There are also a few hundred natives of the Bombay Presidency, who speak Gujerati and Mahrati, and a negligible number of Burmese and Nepalese.

B.—LAND TENURE

Singapore.—Land in the hands of private owners in Singapore is held direct from the Crown either by lease or grant. The earliest of the existing titles are the leases for the term of nine hundred and ninety-nine years issued for land in the town soon after the founding of Singapore.

The first lease issued for a period of ninety-nine years, for land in the town, dates back to 1838.

From 1845 onwards a large number of grants in fee simple was issued for land outside the limits of the town, though for town lands the issue of leases for ninety-nine years still continued. The margin allowed for the expansion of the town was, however, insufficient, with the result that land in the most densely crowded part of the present town is occasionally found to be held under titles which were originally acquired for agricultural purposes.

After the transfer of the Settlements to the control of the Colonial Office in 1867 the titles issued for land both in town and country were leases for terms of 99 or 999 years, but Ordinance No. II of 1886, now the Crown Lands Ordinance (*Chapter 113*), introduced a statutory form of Crown Title, the present Statutory Land Grant, which is a grant in perpetuity subject to a quit-rent and to various implied conditions and covenants which before the passing of the Ordinance had to be expressly provided for in the document of title itself. This Statutory Grant became then, and until recently continued to be the usual form of title issued but the policy now is to restrict the issue of grants in perpetuity, substituting as far as possible leases for terms not exceeding ninety-nine years.

Penang.—Land in Penang and Province Wellesley is held from the Crown under Grant in fee simple, Statutory Grant or lease. The conditions of tenure vary according to the policy of the Government at the time the documents were issued. Unoccupied Crown Land is now ordinarily alienated under lease.

Malacca.—The tenure of a considerable portion of the land in Malacca Town has remained unchanged since the days of Dutch rule. Possession is evidenced in many cases by documents of title in Dutch. The remainder of the land in the Town is mostly held under Crown leases for 99 years, but there are a few leases for 999 years and a few Statutory Grants. Alienated land in the country is generally held under Statutory Grants or leases from the Crown for 99 years, but small holdings owned by Malays are held under Customary tenure as defined by the Malacca Lands Customary Rights Ordinance (*Chapter 125*). This is a small number of grants in fee-simple, both in town and country areas.

Labuan.—Land in Labuan is held in accordance with the provisions of the Labuan Ordinance (*Chapter 6*) and is alienated ordinarily by public auction. Titles are normally leases, for the term of 999 years or less; and, since 1919, leases for not more than 30 years have been granted. There are some titles which are redemptions of titles issued under a former system.

Throughout the Colony.—Temporary occupation of Crown Land is possible under licence for periods not exceeding a year at a time, and similar temporary occupation licences, as well as leases, may be issued for foreshore and sea bed under the provisions of the Foreshores Ordinance (*Chapter 122*).

C.—CO-OPERATION

There was a general improvement in all types of Co-operative Societies during the year. In rural areas the improved prices for rubber and coconuts were reflected in the Credit Societies. The membership ceased to fall for the first year since the depression started in 1930. The paid-up share capital has started to rise again, as also have repayments of loans. The deposits made by members in the General Purposes Societies have increased and the members are making better use of their Societies. A General Purposes Society was formed at the end of the year amongst the inhabitants of the Malay Settlement, Singapore.

There was a big increase in the number, membership and capital of Societies amongst Indian labourers and further expansion may be anticipated, especially in Malacca.

The paid-up capital of the Salary Earner's Societies increased by \$183,600 while the membership increased by 391. At the same time the amount of loans outstanding went down by \$25,700 and the balance of deposits made by members in their Societies increased by \$13,600. The general indications are that the financial position of salary earners who are members of Co-operative Societies improved during the year.

All Societies welcomed the loans floated by the Federated Malay States and Straits Settlements Governments during the year and received substantial allotments in both.

Singapore.—The number of Societies for salary earners in Singapore rose from 21 to 23, membership from 6,717 to 7,091, subscription capital from \$857,900 to \$953,200 and investments in trustee securities from \$585,100 to \$788,900.

Societies for Indian labourers increased in number to 13 (one not working) with membership of 2,178 subscription capital of \$86,884 and investments in trustee securities of \$80,153, as compared with 11 Societies with membership of 2,347, subscription capital of \$77,077 and investments amounting to \$67,235 at the end of 1935.

Malacca.—There was very little change in the position of the eight Rural Credit Societies, the membership of which increased by 4 to 262 with share capital of \$6,959. The holdings of the Societies in cash and in the Post Office Savings Bank came to \$5,245.

The four Societies for salary earners increased their membership to 1,288 with subscription capital of \$232,300 and investments amounting to \$194,500, as compared with a membership of 1,219 with subscription capital of \$211,700 and investments of \$153,200 at the end of 1935.

Indian Labourers' Societies increased in number to 33 (three not working) with a membership of 5,319, subscription capital of \$92,455 and investments of \$90,301, as compared with 21 Societies with 4,427 members, subscription capital of \$59,432 and investments of \$48,194 at the end of 1935.

Penang and Province Wellesley.—The number of Rural Credit Societies remained unchanged. The five Societies had a membership of 112 with share capital of \$3,523 and cash and deposits in the Post Office Savings Bank amounting to \$3,139.

One new Society for salary earners was registered during the year. There were ten Societies with a membership of 3,782, subscription capital of \$520,000 and investments of \$407,300 at the end of the year as compared with nine Societies with membership of 3,834, subscription capital of \$452,300 and investments of \$290,000 at the end of 1935.

One Indian Labourers' Society was liquidated and seven new Societies registered during the year. The 20 Societies with a membership of 3,035 had subscription capital amounting to \$58,975 and investments of \$54,063 at the end of the year, as compared with the subscription capital of \$38,951 and investments of \$37,923 in the 14 Societies at the end of 1935.

D.—MUSEUMS AND GARDENS

The Raffles Museum and Library was an integral part of the Singapore Institution (later called the Raffles Institution) in 1823. In 1844, the Singapore Library, a proprietary concern, was established and in connection with this a museum was formed in 1849. The Government took over the Department, henceforth called the Raffles Museum and Library in 1874.

During the year under review the Museum continued to attract large crowds and it was estimated that 230,000 persons visited the exhibition galleries including the usual throng on the Chinese New Year holidays when the galleries were closely packed with people from morning to late afternoon. Except Sundays and a few public holidays such as Christmas Day when people, normally, do not wish to visit museums, the exhibition galleries were open to the public from 9 A.M. to 5.30 P.M. A number of striking additions to the ethnographical galleries much increased their popularity. The new features included a complete shadow-show from Kelantan. An important event was a temporary exhibition of Chinese porcelain. Fieldwork had a strong bias towards the excavation of prehistoric sites but some zoological work was also carried out. Nineteen papers were published concerning material in the Museum collections.

In the Raffles Library increases in all the important statistics have to be recorded, for the number of subscribers, the amount of the subscriptions

received and the number of books issued all reached new high levels. The number of subscribers was 1,880 and the revenue from subscriptions was \$13,656. The total issue of books was 171,597 and 2,287 books were added to the Library.

The Botanic Gardens in Singapore were founded by a private society in 1858 and taken over by the Government in 1874. The total area is about 100 acres, including 12 acres of original forest. The Gardens provide both a public park, laid out on landscape lines, and a large named collection of plants of all kinds. Special attention is given to displays of ornamental plants, both local and introduced, which are suitable for general use in gardens, thus providing a practical demonstration to the local public interested in gardening. Many useful tropical plants are also represented. New introductions of plants from other countries, for trial purposes, are constantly made. During the past few years a considerable number of hybrid orchid seedlings have been raised, chiefly between species which are specially suited to local conditions, with the object of raising a greater variety of useful garden plants. During 1936 two of these hybrids, between white and red species of scorpion orchids, flowered for the first time, and give promise of being distinctive additions to the range of this group of plants.

The Waterfall Gardens in Penang were founded in 1884 and have a similar function to the Botanic Gardens at Singapore. They are very beautifully situated in a valley, with forest slopes rising above them. A new feature, the construction of which was largely completed in 1936, is a formal garden, representing an attempt to adapt modern ideas of garden design to a tropical setting and tropical plants.

The Botanic Gardens are also centres of research on the botany of Malaya, and perform a public function in disseminating information on that subject. Distinctive local plants are so far as possible displayed in the gardens and plant houses for the benefit of any visitors who may be interested in them. During 1936 classes for local school teachers on Malayan plant life, and on the systematic botany of Malayan plants, were held by a member of the botanical staff, at the request of the Education Department.

E.—EVENTS OF THE YEAR

The beginning and end of 1936 were marked by events of unusual significance. Few in this Colony will forget the sincere manifestations of personal loss that were exhibited by all members of the community when the news of the death of His Majesty KING GEORGE V. was received on the morning of the 22nd of January. The memory of His Majesty's Silver Jubilee was still a vivid one and grief at his passing was rendered all the more poignant by the recollection of that happy occasion. Memorial Services were held in all places of worship throughout the Colony and the official Service at the Singapore Cathedral was attended by such a large and numerous congregation that it was necessary to provide seating accommodation outside the building.

The proclamation of His Majesty KING EDWARD VIII. took place at the Municipal building on the 23rd of January. In accordance with custom on the demise of the Sovereign, the ceremony began with a procession in reverse order from the Government buildings to the place appointed. The proclamation was read by His Excellency the Governor in the presence of a large and distinguished assembly and the ceremony was timed to take place at 5.20 P.M. so as to synchronise with the actual ceremony in London itself. Detachments of the Services and of the local Forces took part and

were drawn up on the Padang in front of His Excellency. Translations of the proclamation were also read in Malay, Tamil and Chinese and after a prayer by the Bishop the procession was reformed in the proper order of precedence and returned to its starting place where it dispersed.

The new reign had barely begun when it was brought to an untimely conclusion by the King's abdication on the 10th of December, 1936. The Duke of York was proclaimed as KING GEORGE VI. in his stead and the ceremony of proclamation was similar in all respects to that of the 23rd of January except that there was no procession. It took place at 12 noon on the 12th of December, 1936. These events passed in an atmosphere of calm dignity and the manner in which they were received was a matter of admiration frequently expressed by leading members of the foreign communities.

In June the Colony was visited by a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State to investigate the whole question of Mui Tsai in Malaya and any surviving practice of transferring women or children for valuable consideration whether on marriage or adoption or in any other circumstances. The Commission spent some five weeks in Malaya in the course of its investigations and left for Hong Kong in July.

Sir THOMAS SHENTON WHITELEGGE THOMAS, K.C.M.G., O.B.E., Governor and Commander-in-Chief, proceeded to England on leave on the 26th April and Mr. A. S. SMALL, Colonial Secretary, officiated as Officer Administering Government until Sir SHENTON THOMAS'S return to Malaya on the 4th September. Meanwhile Mr. J. A. HUNTER acted as Colonial Secretary.

Major-General W. G. S. DOBBIE, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., General Officer Commanding the Troops, Malaya, was on duty throughout the year.

Commodore W. P. MARK-WARDLAW, D.S.O., M.C., R.N., Commodore-in-Charge, His Majesty's Naval Establishments relinquished his command on the 12th September and was succeeded by Commodore M. L. CLARKE, D.S.C., R.N. Air Commodore S. W. SMITH, O.B.E., was succeeded by Air Commodore A. W. TEDDER, C.B., as Officer Commanding the Royal Air Force (Far East) on the 11th November.

Units of the United States Asiatic Fleet, under the command of Admiral H. E. YARNELL, visited Singapore on the 16th November and remained until the 23rd November. Their arrival coincided with the visit of a Dutch naval squadron under the command of Commodore C. E. L. HELFRICH, which left on the 16th November. The German cruiser "Emden" commanded by Captain W. LOHMANN arrived at Singapore on the 11th December, and stayed until the 20th December. Her presence here evoked much interest, as she was the first German warship to visit Malaya since her famous predecessor's exploit at Penang in the early days of the Great War. The visit coincided with the proclamation of H. M. KING GEORGE VI. and in honour of the occasion the Emden fired a salute and her Commanding Officer was present at the proclamation ceremony.

New Year Honours contained the following awards:—

K.B.E. (Civil Division).—Mr. SONG ONG SIANG, C.B.E., V.D., M.A., LL.M.

M.B.E. (Civil Division)—Miss GERTRUDE OWEN.

M.B.E. (Military Division)—C.S.M. JOHN RHYS DANSON, D.C.M.

M.B.E. (Military Division)—Captain MOHAMED ALI BIN MAIDIN.

Medal of the O.B.E. (Military Division)—C.Q.M.S. H. A. L. ORCHARD.

Birthday Honours contained the following awards :—

Knight Bachelor—Mr. JOHN BAGNALL.

C.B.E. (Civil Division)—Mr. GEORGE PRESTON BRADNEY.

O.B.E. (Civil Division)—Mr. HORACE WALTER RAPER.

M.B.E. (Military Division)—Captain TAN SENG TEE.

Imperial Service Order—Captain NOOR MOHAMED HASHIM.

Honorary O.B.E. (Civil Division)—Reverend Mother TARCISIUS.

A. S. SMALL,
*Colonial Secretary,
Straits Settlements.*

SINGAPORE, 12th July, 1937.

APPENDIX "A"

SELECTED LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO THE
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS

Title	Price	Publishers or Agents for Sale
Dominions Office and Colonial Office List	35/-	Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London.
Blue Book (Straits Settlements)	\$6	The Government Printing Office, Singapore, S.S.
Annual Departmental Reports (Straits Settlements) ..	\$6	The Government Printing Office, Singapore, S.S.
Census Report, British Malaya, 1931	\$5	The Crown Agents for the Colonies and The Malayan Information Agency, London.
Malayan Year Book, 1936 ..	\$1.50 3/6	Kelly & Walsh, Ltd., Singapore. The Malay States Agency, London.
Report by the Rt. Hon'ble W. G. A. Ormsby Gore on his visit to Malaya, Ceylon and Java, 1928 ..	4/6	H. M. Stationery Office, London.
Economic Conditions in British Malaya to 20th December, 1934 (Hartland)	2/6	H. M. Stationery Office, London.
A Dictionary of the Economic Products of the Malay Peninsula (I. H. Burkill) 2 Vols. ..	30/-	The Crown Agents for the Colonies.
The Malayan Agricultural Journal	50cts.	Dept. of Agriculture, S.S. and F.M.S., Kuala Lumpur, F.M.S.
Malayan Forest Records ..	Various prices	Forest Department, F.M.S. and The Malayan Information Agency, London.
The Geology of Malaya, 1931 (J. B. Scrivenor)	16/-	Macmillan & Co., Ltd., London.
The Flora of the Malay Peninsula, 1925, 5 Vols. (H. N. Ridley) ..	£11-11-0	L. Reeve & Co., London.
Malayan Fishes, 1921 (C. N. Maxwell)	\$1	The Malayan Branch, Royal Asiatic Society and Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Singapore, S.S.
Oxford Survey of the British Empire, 1924. Vol. 2 (Editors: A. J. Herbertson and O. J. R. Howarth)	15/-	Oxford University Press, London.
One Hundred Years of Singapore, 1921, 2 Vols. (General Editors: W. Makepeace, G. E. Brooke, and R. St. J. Braddell) ..	out of print	John Murray, London.
One Hundred Years of the Chinese in Singapore, 1923. (Sir Ong Siang Song)	30/-	John Murray, London.
Handbook to British Malaya, 1935 (R. L. German) ..	2/6	J. M. Dent & Sons, Ltd., London.

APPENDIX "A"—*continued*SELECTED LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO THE
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS—*continued*

Title	Price	Publishers or Agents for Sale
Historical Geography of British Dominions, Vol. 1. (C. P. Lucas)	not sold separately	Oxford University Press, London.
A History of Malaya (Sir Richard Winstedt)	\$7.50	The Malayan Branch, Royal Asiatic Society, Singapore, S.S. and Luzac & Co., London.
British Malaya, 1824-1867. 1925. (L. A. Mills)	\$3.50	The Malayan Branch, Royal Asiatic Society, Singapore, S.S. and Luzac & Co., London.
British Malaya, 1929. (Sir F. A. Swettenham)	12/6	J. Lane, London.
Papers on Malay Subjects. (Incidents of Malay life, Law, etc. Ed. by R. J. Wilkinson) ..	\$1 each	Kelly & Walsh, Ltd., Singapore, S. S.
Malaya. The Straits Settlements, the Federated and Unfederated Malay States, 1923. Sir Richard Winstedt)	12/6	Constable & Co., London.
Report of the Wild Life Commission of Malaya, 1932, 3 Vols. ..	\$12	The Government Printing Office, Singapore, S.S.
Report of Sir Samuel Wilson's visit to Malaya, 1932	50 cts.	H. M. Stationery Office, London.
Report of the Commission appointed by His Excellency the Governor of the Straits Settlements to enquire into and report on the Trade of the Colony, 1933-1934, Vol. I	\$5	The Government Printing Office, Singapore, S.S.
Report of the Commission appointed by His Excellency the Governor of the Straits Settlements to enquire into and report on the Trade of the Colony, 1933-1934, Vol. IV. (Appendices)	\$10	The Government Printing Office, Singapore, S.S.

TABLE I

EXCESS OF FOREIGN ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES AT PRINCIPAL PORTS OF ENTRY, MALAYA, DURING THE YEAR, 1936

Race	BY SEA							BY AIR			BY RAIL			BY ROAD		Total
	BY SEA							BY AIR			BY RAIL			BY ROAD		
	Singapore	Penang	Malacca	Labuan	Port Swettenham	Perak (Teluk Anson)	Kelantan	Singapore	Penang	Kedah	Perlis	Kelantan	Perak	Kedah		
Europeans	2,073	849	7	13	34	...	1	18	— 24	2	— 281	— 6	9	78	2,773	
Eurasians	43	17	...	7	4	...	...	...	...	...	— 8	— 3	14	— 4	70
Japanese	342	24	..	8	...	...	...	25	— 2	...	4	2	17	9	429
Chinese	67,730	8,569	...	356	— 2,165	...	1	18	5	1	1,317	288	— 1,094	775	75,801	
Malays	1,664	— 1,016	...	153	17	— 10	1	4	— 1	...	182	— 5,402	— 717	799	— 4,326	
Northern Indians	783	1,273	11	5	86	..	...	8	...	...	257	— 154	— 42	6	2,061
Southern Indians	5,600	3,978	...	42	— 1,698	..	...	...	1	...	— 35	19	18	— 16	7,909
Others	510	— 1,168	...	— 62	21	...	2	— 1	...	...	223	— 2,058	— 6	631	— 1,908
Total	78,745	12,526	18	522	— 3,873	— 10	5	72	— 21	3	1,659	— 7,314	— 1,801	2,278	82,809	

TABLE II

COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR 1935 AND FOR THE YEAR, 1936 ARE —

	BY SEA								BY AIR			BY RAIL		BY ROAD		TOTAL
	Singapore	Penang	Malacca	Labuan	Port Swettenham	Perak (Teluk Anson)	Kelantan	Singapore	Penang	Kedah	Perlis	Kelantan	Perak	Kedah		
1935	...	96,134	21,471	3	533	12,363	42	— 5	— 28	2	— 13	1,446	— 9,917	963	2,212	125,206
1936:—																
January	...	4,205	— 396	...	34	— 1,213	...	...	— 6	3	...	742	— 52	125	740	4,182
February	...	4,034	— 375	...	27	— 987	— 10	4	— 10	— 3	2	68	3,753	212	39	6,754
March	...	9,244	485	2	59	— 970	...	— 1	0	9	1	— 296	— 4,854	— 376	— 196	3,107
April	...	6,002	1,048	3	144	— 714	...	...	34	— 1	...	77	— 97	— 378	54	6,018
May	...	6,204	1,095	...	108	— 50	...	...	15	2	...	5	695	— 142	236	8,168
June	...	7,971	1,961	2	6	— 165	...	...	29	0	...	— 108	— 1,016	— 219	111	8,572
July	...	6,545	1,727	2	— 89	— 179	...	...	5	— 9	...	178	2,396	— 295	116	10,397
August	...	4,963	481	5	38	— 386	...	1	11	— 2	...	95	— 307	— 53	199	5,045
September	...	8,159	2,545	0	— 69	— 160	...	...	2	— 4	...	126	— 675	— 278	219	10,185
October	...	6,258	2,104	— 1	77	331	...	2	3	— 8	...	512	— 773	— 152	208	8,561
November	...	8,472	1,086	...	97	103	...	...	2	— 9	...	— 103	— 649	— 113	136	9,022
December	...	6,688	765	5	90	197	...	— 1	— 13	1	...	517	— 5,735	— 132	416	2,798
Total	...	78,745	12,526	18	522	— 3,873	— 10	5	72	— 21	3	1,659	— 7,314	— 1,801	2,278	82,809

TABLE III

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF PASSENGERS BY SEA, LAND AND AIR, BY COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION, DURING THE YEAR, 1936

ARRIVALS FROM

Race	BY SEA									
	THE NETHERLANDS INDIES					CHINA (2)				
	M.	W.	Children (1)		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total
			B.	G.				B.	G.	
Europeans (4)	4,437	2,352	522	455	7,766	2,200	916	70	57	3,243
Eurasians	274	274	5	5	558	8	10	1	...	19
Japanese	585	101	55	34	775	91	19	4	2	116
Chinese	50,912	8,850	4,040	2,756	66,558	78,050	51,522	14,535	10,602	154,709
Malays (5)	20,953	7,981	3,731	2,966	35,631	16	7	1	1	25
Northern Indians	2,279	210	122	117	2,728	184	19	15	11	229
Southern Indians (6)	1,886	89	89	54	2,118	23	9	11	8	51
Others	484	63	31	24	602	24	3	...	...	27
Total	81,810	19,920	8,595	6,411	116,736	80,596	52,505	14,637	10,681	158,419

Race	BY SEA									
	SIAM					OTHER COUNTRIES				
	M.	W.	Children		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total
			B.	G.				B.	G.	
Europeans	487	199	22	27	735	8,650	5,056	859	746	15,311
Eurasians	5	4	5	4	18	51	34	5	8	98
Japanese	48	4	2	1	55	1,089	340	89	93	1,611
Chinese	1,224	264	282	126	1,896	7,797	1,760	671	495	10,723
Malays	52	15	6	13	86	2,337	990	337	220	3,884
Northern Indians	113	10	1	10	134	712	49	37	31	829
Southern Indians	92	4	2	1	99	405	37	20	19	481
Others	131	153	30	33	347	1,130	198	90	27	1,445
Total	2,152	653	350	215	3,370	22,171	8,464	2,108	1,639	34,382

TOTAL									
M.	W.	Children		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total
		B.	G.				B.	G.	
16,882	9,199	1,532	1,342	28,955	16,882	9,199	1,532	1,342	28,955
373	358	17	21	769	373	358	17	21	769
1,906	478	153	133	2,670	1,906	478	153	133	2,670
138,474	62,541	19,581	14,022	234,618	138,474	62,541	19,581	14,022	234,618
23,607	9,027	4,085	3,212	39,931	23,607	9,027	4,085	3,212	39,931
12,143	1,743	991	721	15,598	12,143	1,743	991	721	15,598
39,813	6,130	4,651	2,686	53,280	39,813	6,130	4,651	2,686	53,280
1,920	479	167	98	2,664	1,920	479	167	98	2,664
235,118	89,955	31,177	22,235	378,485	235,118	89,955	31,177	22,235	378,485

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF PASSENGERS BY SEA, LAND AND AIR, BY COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION, DURING THE YEAR, 1936

DEPARTURES TO

Race	BY SEA												
	SIAM				OTHER COUNTRIES				TOTAL				
	M.	W.	Children		M.	W.	Children		M.	W.			
			B.	G.			B.	G.					
Europeans	521	194	19	23	6,714	4,246	868	740	14,545	8,630	1,480	1,323	25,978
Eurasians	10	6	1	5	40	14	5	3	336	331	15	16	698
Japanese	41	1	...	...	882	360	145	133	1,524	433	181	158	2,296
Chinese	1,192	275	303	109	7,046	2,191	520	376	10,133	29,466	13,429	8,783	160,127
Malays	36	14	3	5	3,865	1,788	565	391	24,261	8,591	3,455	2,815	39,122
Northern Indians	149	12	13	0	455	48	27	12	10,903	1,331	849	529	13,612
Southern Indians	86	15	9	9	336	60	23	13	33,907	7,267	2,546	1,638	45,358
Others	178	233	65	58	669	99	82	32	2,373	558	270	160	3,361
Total	2,213	750	413	219	20,007	8,806	2,235	1,700	196,298	56,607	22,225	15,422	290,552

Race	BY LAND												
	FOREIGN COUNTRIES				SIAM				GRAND TOTAL				
	M.	W.	Children		M.	W.	Children		M.	W.			
			B.	G.			B.	G.					
Europeans	689	143	4	4	1,311	544	17	1	16,545	9,317	1,501	1,328	28,691
Eurasians	...	...	...	...	88	85	14	7	421	416	29	23	892
Japanese	27	...	...	...	127	3	1	...	1,678	436	182	158	2,454
Chinese	35	4	1	...	34,964	6,744	2,946	1,677	143,448	36,214	16,376	10,460	206,498
Malays	1	2	...	...	45,012	21,175	6,012	3,789	69,274	29,768	9,467	6,604	115,113
Northern Indians	6	...	...	...	2,299	111	87	23	13,208	1,442	936	552	16,138
Southern Indians	...	...	...	...	2,085	66	49	15	35,992	7,333	2,595	1,653	47,573
Others	7	2	...	...	12,093	6,512	2,158	1,320	14,473	7,072	2,428	1,480	25,453
Total	765	151	5	4	97,979	35,240	11,284	6,832	295,042	91,998	33,514	22,258	442,812

TABLE III—continued

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF PASSENGERS BY SEA, LAND AND AIR, BY COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION, DURING THE YEAR, 1936
EXCESS (+) OR DEFICIT (—) ARRIVALS

Race	BY SEA																
	THE NETHERLANDS INDIES					CHINA (2)					INDIA (3)						
	M.	W.	Children (1)		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total		
			B.	G.				B.	G.				B.	G.			
Europeans (4)	-	238	-	111	76	7	-	266	-	712	-	56	-	134	2	-	190
Eurasians ...	-	19	-	9	2	1	-	31	4	8	-	9	-	4	5	0	0
Japanese ...	-	141	-	54	28	16	-	239	13	47	-	4	-	5	6	1	16
Chinese ...	-	1,508	-	576	1,059	956	-	4,099	32,933	69,802	-	62	-	8	17	20	17
Malays (5)	-	807	-	1,197	846	550	-	3,400	7	-	-	80	-	29	8	9	126
Northern Indians	-	26	-	51	37	79	-	432	16	145	-	649	-	346	93	84	1,172
Southern Indians (6)	-	365	-	26	40	33	-	464	5	9	-	5,494	-	1,134	2,067	1,011	7,438
Others ...	-	125	-	7	-	5	-	123	1	12	-	731	-	104	-	37	938
Total ...	-	2,742	-	1,809	2,078	1,647	-	8,276	32,976	70,673	-	5,379	-	998	2,106	1,088	7,575
BY SEA																	
Race	SIAM					OTHER COUNTRIES					TOTAL						
	M.	W.	Children		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total		
			B.	G.				B.	G.				B.	G.			
	Europeans	-	34	-	5	3	4	-	22	810	-	9	6	2,743	569	52	19	2,977
Eurasians ...	-	5	-	2	4	1	-	4	20	-	0	5	36	27	2	5	71
Japanese ...	-	7	-	3	2	1	-	13	20	-	56	40	91	45	-	25	374
Chinese ...	-	32	-	11	-	17	-	17	431	151	119	590	33,075	30,025	6,152	5,239	74,491
Malays	-	16	-	1	3	8	-	28	798	-	228	171	-	436	630	397	809
Northern Indians	-	36	-	2	-	0	-	50	1	10	19	287	412	1,240	142	192	1,986
Southern Indians	-	6	-	11	-	8	-	20	23	-	3	6	49	5,906	2,105	1,048	7,922
Others ...	-	47	-	80	-	25	-	187	99	8	5	563	-	79	-	62	697
Total ...	-	61	-	97	-	4	-	225	-	342	-	61	1,634	33,348	8,952	6,813	87,933

TABLE III—concluded
ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF PASSENGERS BY SEA, LAND AND AIR, BY COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND DESTINATION, DURING THE YEAR, 1936
EXCESS (+) OR DEFICIT (−) ARRIVALS

Race	BY AIR					BY LAND					GRAND TOTAL		(7) (8)									
	FOREIGN COUNTRIES					SIAM																
	M.	W.	Children		Total	M.	W.	Children		Total	M.	W.		Children		Total						
			B.	G.				B.	G.					B.	G.							
Europeans ...	—	10	—	5	13	—	2	—	4	—	84	—	149	12	21	—	200	2,243	415	77	38	2,773
Eurasians ...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	—	...	—	3	—	9	0	5	—	1	40	18	2	10	70
Japanese ...	20	2	...	...	...	18	...	10	23	32	687	1,286	135	2	2	420	50,737	33,210	6,496	—	23	429
Chinese ...	25	0	...	...	...	687	...	864	24	1,286	—	5,138	—	345	119	—	—	—	—	—	5,358	75,801
Malays ...	1	1	...	...	...	—	...	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Indians ...	8	...	...	...	...	14	...	40	8	67	14	67	40	26	15	—	1,234	452	168	207	2,061	
Southern Indians ...	1	...	...	...	...	14	...	2	1	14	14	14	2	20	6	—	5,921	—	2,085	2,085	1,042	7,909
Others ...	0	—	...	...	...	—	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	227	64	—	—	—	—	124	—	—
Total ...	45	—	3	13	54	—	3,835	976	—	5,178	—	35,030	32,369	8,925	6,485	—	82,809					

Notes:—

1. Children are under 12 (English) years of age.
2. China includes Hong Kong.
3. India includes Burma and Ceylon.
4. Europeans include Americans.
5. Malays include all natives of the Malayan Archipelago.
6. Southern Indians are natives of the Presidency of Madras and the States of Mysore and Travancore.
7. For movements *via* individual ports or land-routes, see monthly Return Statistics 3; for movements of deck passengers (Chinese, Javanese and Southern Indians) see monthly Return Statistics 13.
8. Net Arrivals, 1936: 82,809.
- Net Arrivals, 1935: 125,206.

TABLE IV

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF CHINESE, JAVANESE AND SOUTHERN INDIAN DECK PASSENGERS DURING THE YEAR, 1936

Race	SINGAPORE		PENANG		PORT SWETTENHAM		TOTAL	Net Arrivals during the year	NET ARRIVALS FOR THE YEARS 1934 AND 1935		
	Arrivals	Depart-ures	Arrivals	Depart-ures	Arrivals	Depart-ures			1934	1935	
1. Chinese from and to China including Hongkong (a) ...	131,003	66,532	18,816	11,927	3	2,119	149,822	80,578	69,244	41,138	76,828
2. Javanese from and to Java (b) ...	66	28	...	...	...	...	66	28	38	459	6
3. Southern Indians from and to Presidency of Madras (c) ...	13,542	9,698	20,275	18,088	9,219	11,897	43,036	39,683	3,353	61,845	27,168
Total ...	144,611	76,258	39,091	30,015	9,222	14,016	192,924	120,289	72,635	102,524	103,990

(a) For Chinese: all deck passengers by all steamers.

(b) For Javanese: all labourers recruited for Malayan estates as reported by recruiting agencies and the Labour Department at Singapore.

(c) For Southern Indians: all deck passengers embarked and disembarked by British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers between Malayan Ports and Madras as reported by the Labour Department.

Nationality, number and tonnage of Vessels with cargo and in ballast and native craft of all tonnage (including their repeated voyages) which arrived and departed at the ports of the Straits Settlements during the year, 1936

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, 1936

Nationality	SINGAPORE						PENANG					
	MERCHANT VESSELS			MEN-OF-WAR			MERCHANT VESSELS			MEN-OF-WAR		
	Over 75 Tons Net		75 Tons Net and Under		No.	Tons	Over 75 Tons Net		75 Tons Net and Under		No.	Tons
	No.	Tons	No.	Tons			No.	Tons	No.	Tons		
British	4,477	9,979,292	..	..	57	259,930	2,768	7,842,669	..	..	30	67,190
American	76	391,146	..	..	24	54,306	75	397,291	..	..	..	..
Belgian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chinese	188	109,658	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Danish	192	659,040	..	..	..	..	14	20,978	..	..	..	..
Dutch	4,305	6,891,127	..	..	10	34,576	92	358,228	..	..	..	..
French	378	1,763,261	..	..	6	24,800	1,116	1,422,085	..	..	..	..
German	341	1,758,300	..	..	2	12,000	..	..	..	..	..	..
Greek	27	82,392	..	..	..	..	206	1,182,326	..	..	..	..
Italian	120	726,014	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese	1,313	5,536,092	..	..	2	1,756	8	29,376	..	..	..	..
Norwegian	1,072	1,882,127	..	..	..	..	392	1,713,704	..	..	..	..
Panama	2	10,566	..	..	..	..	222	355,086	..	..	..	..
Portuguese	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Polish	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Russian	38	68,498	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sarawak	171	87,828	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Siamese	302	181,369	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Swedish	61	232,715	..	..	6	3,260	..	..	..	..	4	1,916
Yugoslavian	2	7,086	..	..	..	..	22	81,282	..	..	..	..
Total	13,065	30,366,511	35,397	1,324,796	107	390,628	4,915	13,403,025	11,407	519,735	34	69,106
± 1935	- 530	+ 111,085	+ 2,217	+ 54,667	+ 17	+ 33,738	+ 81	+ 496,775	- 569	- 22,543	- 34	- 26,396

APPENDIX "C"—continued

Nationality, number and tonnage of Vessels with cargo and in ballast and native craft of all tonnage (including their repeated voyages) which arrived and departed at the ports of the Straits Settlements during the year, 1936

Nationality	MALACCA					LABUAN				
	MERCHANT SHIPS			MEN-OF-WAR		MERCHANT SHIPS			MEN-OF-WAR	
	Over 75 Tons Net		75 Tons Net and Under	No.	Tons	Over 75 Tons Net		75 Tons Net and Under	No.	Tons
	No.	Tons	No.			No.	Tons	No.		
British	602	692,124	..	..	..	254	233,995	..	8	45,324
American	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chinese	48	19,512	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Danish	66	266,104	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dutch	30	89,406	..	..	..	4	1,512	..	..	..
Finnish	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
French	2	18,800	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
German	26	123,538	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Greek	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hungarian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Norwegian	182	147,910	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Panama	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Russian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sarawak	..	..	..	..	..	4	692	..	..	..
Siamese	10	7,880	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Spanish	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Swedish	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	966	1,365,274	5,749	..	111,895	262	236,199	2,835	8	45,324
± 1935	-54	-43,646	+262	-1	-8,216	-24	-6,067	-146	+2	+21,332

Note.—To the above figures must be added:—
(a) Christmas Island: total net tonnage arrived and departed during the year 1936 was 169,885 tons—an increase of 22,888 tons. (Including Men-of-War 10,000 tons).
The total tonnage of vessels arrived and departed at the Straits Settlements ports during the year 1936 was 48,038,328 tons or an increase of 627,515 tons as compared with the year, 1935. This comprised (a) merchant vessels 47,523,270 tons of which (i) over 75 tons 45,530,894 tons



LABUAN

1936

Scale, 2 Miles to 1 Inch

Yards 3500 0 2 4 Miles

REFERENCE

Earth Road & Bridle Path.....
Roads: Metalled.....
Point, Tanjong, River.....Pt. T. R.
Pulau, Light House.....P. L.
Kampung, Lobok.....Kg. L.
Flashing Light or Buoy.....
Fixed Light, Sungei.....F★ S
Mukim Boundary, Height.....336
Country, Suburban.....C. S.
Districts: (1) Town (2) Suburban (1) (2)



Boundary by Treaty of May 28th. 1847 between Great Britain and the Sultan of Brunei

115° 10' E. of Greenwich

15

20

MAP
OF
PENANG ISLAND
AND
PROVINCE WELLESLEY
1936

Scale, 2 Miles to 1 Inch

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REFERENCE

Railway with Station	Single Line—Double Line
Metalled Roads	—
State Boundary	—
District	—
Mukim	—
Municipal	—
Village	—
Government Cart Tracks	—
Private Metalled Roads	—
Private Cart Tracks	—



MALACCA TERRITORY 1936

Scale, 2 Miles to 1 Inch



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REFERENCE

- Railway with Station
- Metalled Roads
- State Boundary
- District "
- Mukim "
- Municipal "
- Vernacular School, Customs Station
- Post & Telegraph Office, Rest House
- Police Station, Forest Checking Station
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